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OF VARIED IMPORT

PARAGRAPHIC REVIEW AND DISSECTION OF THINGS CAPITALISTIC.

Colorado's Bareback Rider, Guggenheim—The August Son of an August Vice-President—Harriman Pap vs. Harriman Prosecution—A Senatorial Wish from Modern Athens—The Vanishing Rich—Men and the System, with Others of Interest.

Simon Guggenheim, the mines and railroad grande Senator-elect from Colorado, announces his political acrobatic program. The two horses, Labor and Capital, which run in opposite directions, the acrobatic Guggenheim is to ride bare-back and simultaneously. He is to be the Senator of ALL the people of Colorado.

The son of a vice-President of the United States—of no less august a personage than the presiding officer of the United States Senate—the star performer in an elopement and subsequently in a flight to escape arrest upon an indictment for perjury and other crimes, is one of the typical sights of the day.

Experts on trans-Pacific lines of steamships declare that the description of the lines to receive ships subsidies is so framed as to fit the Hill and Harriman lines. The same experts wink their left eyes when they point to this fact, showing the President in the attitude of throwing pap to Harriman, at the same time that the President affects to be prosecuting Harriman as a law-breaker.

A Boston member of the ruling class, Thomas W. Hayden by name, grieves over the circumstance that the United States Senate is called "a rich man's club." He would have that altered. How? By the cheap process of wishing. He says he wishes the Senate would resume her one-time practice of sending to the Senate her Websters and Choates. "If any such she has." The proviso—"If any such she has"—is evidence that Mr. Hayden is not wholly a mooncalf. A class that is rising to maturity has its Websters and Choates; when that class is sinking from maturity to decay, then it has its Ledges and Cranes.

The New York Bar Association exonerated David B. Hill from conduct unbecoming a lawyer when, being a United States Senator he took a fee from the Equitable Life Assurance Society. "After careful consideration of the merits of the case" Mr. Hill was acquitted, while the mouths of the acquitters ran water, in hope and anticipation of similar chances for themselves.

Let it never more be said "the rich grow richer." Let the tax roll—which shows 400 taxpayers on property of \$100,000 and over in 1905, and this year only 230 of them—put an eternal snuffer on the pestiferous Socialists who are ever arraying class against class. The statistics furnished by the tax-roll prove that the rich are vanishing.

If the Mitchell-Gompers conspiracy with the O'Neills, Mahoneys and Kirwans to guarantee the coal miners to the A. F. of L. suffered shipwreck, there is absolutely no prospect of Gompers' trip south succeeding in scuttling the move of the cigarmakers to organize wholesale in the I. W. W. The conspiracy regarding the coal miners failed notwithstanding it took the I. W. W. by the surprise. The I. W. W. has now all its eyes open.

The American Crucible and Steel Co. works, located at Harrison, N. J., made a holiday shipment via the Pennsylvania Railroad of two thousand tons of unbored rifle barrels, consigned to the Japanese government. The agent in charge is reported to have laconically remarked to the workmen and others at the plant, "These are to shoot you with."—A true statement, for such is the patriotism of the capitalist, that he will not only sacrifice his own country, but his own individual employees for profit.

Handwinded in among the series of platitudes that the "philosophers" Felix Adler laded out at the January 13 meeting of the Society so-called for Ethical Culture was the unethical, because disingenuous, statement that it

"wasn't the men (capitalists) but the system that he would attack." In the mouth of the Socialist such a statement is rational; it is uttered with intent to deceive, by the man who applauds the punishment of a wretch of a workman whom, "the system" has driven to crime, while he, the "ethical philosopher," defends and fawns upon, and profits by the guilty capitalists who uphold and furiously defend "the system."

The "Cleveland Plain Dealer" is plainly dealing in dribble. It whines over the "School of Harriman's" breeding Socialists without knowing it. Socialism has ever preached the fact that if there were no Capitalism there could be no Socialists. The "Plain Dealer" would have criminals and then find fault with them for producing District Attorneys without knowing it.

In 1905 there were 400 persons in New York City taxed upon \$100,000 or more of personal property. This year there are of them only 230. This may throw a side-light on ex-Secretary of the Treasury Shaw's prayer that we be saved from our prosperity, or, as he now puts it, from "increased prosperity." If the late prosperity breeds perjury at the rate above revealed, "increased prosperity" would bury the "Law, Order and Morality" pillars of society beneath an avalanche of perjury too deep for the hand of resurrection to fathom.

Ireland is pursued by the question of "Absentee Landlordism." America is now being pursued by the question of "Absentee Capitalism." The banker Henry Clews is of the opinion that the marriage of American heiresses to European noblemen causes the money of the country to flow to Europe—as though the question were one of where to spend plunder instead of how to stop plunder.

Mr. Breyer, the President of the A. F. of L. Cloth Examiners' and Spongers' Union, whose policy of systematic betrayal of the interests of the workmen in the Union, and of smothering the small producers in restraint of trade to the interest of the big fellows, has been categorically exposed in these columns, is out with a neatly printed card. The card designates as "sore-heads" the former members of his Union who declared their independence from him, have established a bona fide Union in the I. W. W., and are rapidly undermining Breyer's pirate ship. Mr. Breyer's card lacks just one thing to make it complete, and absolutely convincing. It should have a half-tone picture of Mr. Breyer himself at its lower right corner; a half-tone picture of Mr. Breyer's lieutenant in his Union, the Volkszeitung Corporation stockholder Adolf Lowenthal, at the lower left corner; and, at the top of the card, a half-tone picture of Belmont, the President of the Civic Federation, holding in his hand two strings, one tied to Mr. Breyer's right leg, the other to Mr. Lowenthal's left leg. The strings would have to cross the lettering on the card from top to bottom, towards the right bottom and the left bottom. But that would not interfere with the lettering or its understanding. On the contrary, it would illumine the lettering.

BUFFALO FREE SPEECH FIGHT DROPPED BY POLICE.

Buffalo, N. Y., January 18.—We have just received information at the office of our attorney, Lewis and Lewis, that the corporation counsel's office informed them that they decided to discontinue the case that was recently tried in Municipal Court and on which no agreement of jury could be obtained.

That settles this case. Whether it means that the police will not molest the Socialist Labor Party open-air meetings any more or whether they will try to break them up in a different way or under a different clause, remains to be seen, when the season opens up.

HARTFORD, CONN., ATTENTION.

On SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1907, at three o'clock in the afternoon, Daniel De Leon will lecture at Parsons' Theatre on "Industrial Unionism."

This announcement will be sufficient for all who are directly interested; but they should at the same time make it their special business to induce as many of their shopmates as possible to be present also, in order to fill the theatre to its utmost capacity.

Admission will be fifteen cents. Tickets may be had from members and at headquarters, 24 Elm street.

THE COLUMBUS EXPLOSION

In 1903, during the strike in Columbus, O., of the engineers and firemen, affiliated with and part of the United Brewery Workers, a corporal's guard of strangling and unorganized engineers and firemen—but numerous enough to scab upon the brewers and break their strike—were rounded up in that city by the agents of Gompers, were "organized" into a new "Union" of engineers and firemen, and thus furnished "Union labor" with which the brewery bosses could and did knock-down the engineer and firemen's branch of the United Brewery Workers then on strike.

The affair of 1903 was a preliminary skirmish in the campaign of the A. F. of L. to destroy the industrially organized brewers; to decompose that strong, because industrial, body of the United Brewery Workers into its component craft elements; and thus to render (for a consideration?) a valuable piece of service to the brewery bosses. In the language of the pure and simple political Socialist Party men, the affair was a step illustrative of the steady, triumphantly steady, "march of the A. F. of L. towards industrialism." Though the skirmish had proved successful, in that the brewers' strike was lost, the affair created such a sensation that the schemers sought to patch up some kind of peace and compromise. This was done—as will appear presently it was pretended to be done—by the labor lieutenants of the capitalist class assembled at the Toronto Council of the A. F. of L., which met soon after the Columbus incident. At that Council it was decided that the contracts entered by the opposition Union of engineers and firemen with the brewery bosses should be declared null and void, and that new contracts were to be concluded the

feature of which contracts was to be that they were all to expire on the same date on which the contracts of the brewery workers expired. The promise of making all the contracts in the breweries expire on the same day removed one of the objections of the United Brewery Workers to the independent organization of the engineers and firemen's craft of the industry. The rival organization of firemen and engineers was sustained, and the engineers and firemen, formerly affiliated with the brewery Union and against whom the new body had scabbed, submitted to leaving their parent body and joining the new one.

Obedient to the orders of the Toronto Council a new set of contracts all to expire on the same date, were entered into in May, 1903, with the brewery employers of Columbus by all the crafts in the brewery industry—brewers, bottlers, beer-drivers, and stationary engineers and firemen. The date for the expiration of the contracts was April 1, 1906. Did we say a new set of contracts, all to expire on the same date, were entered into? The statement is subject to modification. A new set of contracts, all to expire on the same date was believed to have been entered into. When April 1, 1906, came around the little Joker was discovered. The duplicates of all contracts, held by the Unions, did expire, on the same day, April 1, 1906; not so, however, the duplicates of all the contracts held by the bosses. There was one exception. The exception was the duplicate of the contract of the stationary engineers and firemen. The duplicate of that contract, held by the employers, expired a full year later, April 1, 1907, while the duplicate of the same contract, held by the Union of the stationary engineers and firemen

itself agreed with the date of all the others, duplicates and originals. A singular "error" on the part of J. D. Pierce, the dignitary, who, in the capacity of National Organizer of the A. F. of L., signed and witnessed the contract entered into between the engineers and firemen, on the one side, and the brewery bosses on the other.

Was this discrepancy an accident? If it was, Mr. Pierce would have so pronounced it, and the bosses would have so construed it. But no! From Gompers' pet Pierce down, the leading officers of the new stationary engineers and firemen's Union lined up with the obviously forged 1907 contract; lined up with the boss; lined up with the plot to promote craft Unionism in the interest of the capitalist class! The result was to be expected—an explosion. Forty-two members of the duped firemen's Union hurled the forgery into the faces of their national officers, and walked out of a Union whose real purposes they then discovered, and rejoined their former Union, Local No. 80 of their craft in the United Brewery Workers; the Columbus Trade and Labor Assembly pronounced itself in no uncertain tone in favor of the brewers, seated and kept Local No. 80 as constituent members, and now defies the A. F. of L. to revoke its charter.

"Contracts" are begotten of fraud; fraud and corruption attend their every step; there is no honorable contract possible between the wage slave and the capitalist slaveholders. They are the bands that fetter the motions of the Giant Labor. No wonder Belmont's vice-President Gompers tours the country to the refrain of "the sanctity of contracts drawn up under the auspices of the A. F. of L."

VICTOR FUNKE DEAD



VICTOR FUNKE.

News reached here on the 16th inst. of the death of Victor Funke, late editor of the Swedish organ of the Socialist Labor Party, "Arbetaren." The paper, "Ostgöten," of the 4th instant, which carried the sad news, stated in the announcement signed "Mother," that Funke departed this life at Hyart, Sweden, on the second of this month, aged 45 years and 28 days.

Funke was born at Skeppeas, Sweden, situated close by the place where he died, on December 5, 1861. His life struggle is on a par with that of the average wage slave under capitalism.

At the age of 13 he became fatherless, leaving him from that date to depend upon his own resources. He left Sweden for Rio de Janeiro in 1881. From there he arrived in the United States in 1882. In 1887 he began his contributions to the then newly launched weekly Swedish S. L. P. organ "Arbetaren." Beginning with 1898, he became its editor, which position he actively held until he became too weak any longer to hold it, in July, 1905. On July 2, 1904, he left New York for his

mother country, hoping there to regain his broken health.

It was at his post as editor of "Arbetaren" that his comrades learned to know, to respect and to love him. His character was true; his intelligence had no flaw and staunch as steel he was as a revolutionist. He never withheld a blow at error for fear of making an enemy, and his unflinching stand behind that principle did indeed make him many friends and admirers and, of course, many a covert enemy in the Labor Movement. Historic instances could be enumerated that would illumine his character on that score.

His best efforts were lent to the Labor Movement on this continent. The Scandinavian S. L. P. Federation here owes much to his labors for its clearness and progress.

His departure is no small loss to the Labor Movement, and that loss has, in fact, been felt ever since he contracted that dreaded proletarian disease, consumption, which has finally carried him off.

Our comrade shall not soon be forgotten. He lived like a man and fought like a man for the noblest of aspirations of the best of men.

Arvid Olson.

LECTURE OUTLOOK GOOD.

Great Demand For Cards Announcing Wednesday Evening Series.

Judging from the manner in which the cards announcing the Wednesday evening lectures of Section New York County at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Marks Place, (East 8th street), are sought the lectures promise to be the most successful ever held.

So great has been the demand that the first 5,000 ordered went in a few days and the County Executive Committee were compelled to order another supply of the same number.

The first of these lectures began on Wednesday evening, January 23rd, at 8 o'clock. Frank Bohn the National Secretary of the S. L. P., delivered the first of a course of five lectures entitled "The Labor Process." Bohn will lecture every alternate Wednesday evening until he finishes the series.

Justus Ebert will also deliver two lectures the first one of which will be given on Wednesday evening, January 30th, entitled "Early American Labor Organizations."

Admission to lectures is free and all those who attend will surely enjoy an intellectual treat.

Questions and discussion will follow each lecture.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The Pending Election—A Word With The Working Class Thereon.

A word with the working class, more especially those of the province of British Columbia, where an election is pending. The pseudo-conservative Socialist Party of B.C., is composed of all shades of politics, led by a trio, with the aid of a private-owned sheet, called, at this time, "The Western Clarion," and like the party, has changed its name so often, it is a wonder it did not do so this election. The Editor-in-Chief, Kingsley, has only his own sweet will to study. The membership's share is to subscribe to the sheet, pay dues, and say nothing but Kingsleyism, which says the I. W. W. men are traitors, anarchists, freaks, and their leader is that terrible De Leon of the Weekly "Peep," as he calls it. (We notice it peeps too far for some people, and well they know it.) All know the I. W. W. is Socialism.

Kingsley said "there would be no counting out of votes here in B. C., or some people would get their heads cracked." This is not anarchism; this is sublime Kingsleyism on the conservative principle. He should have said "the conservative party will see to it that none of our votes are counted out."

They have a bluff out before the public of 21 names of mixed politics, published by the conservative press, chosen for nomination, and at the meeting tonight they were asking for more funds as they had not enough. Will they ever have enough?

One of these 21 was a fusionist at the last General Election. Two others gave out fusion dodgers. One Poo-Bah Mortimore is a back number on that account as he wanted to fight when the clearer heads wanted to throw him out of the party. On the fusion ticket he polled 1333 votes, while his running mate lost his deposit. At a by-election later, Mortimore got about half the number he did first, thanks to the clearer heads of his party and the Socialist Labor Party, which was on his track.

All those nominated have "Soc." at the end of their names, which means they will "Soc." it to the working class for their own material interest.

This Poo-Bah Mortimore is assisted by Ben Wilson, who doesn't spout hot air for nothing in the interest of those concerned. Two of the 21 are employers of labor in this city and there may be more in the province yet. Marx says, where there is no common interest there is no unity of purpose much less action.

One of those down for nomination has been in the party but a few weeks, how is this for constitution?

Workingmen, wake up; don't support such a quasi conglomeration of freakishness for the material interest of a few grafters. If you have money to spend buy scientific reading matter on the class struggle. Join the I. W. W., the only true union of the working class on the economic field and the Socialist Labor Party on the political. Read the literature of both organizations, neither owned by private interests, but both by the working class. You will then understand the A. F. of L. is capitalistic in its entirety.

Look out, wage workers; don't vote for your own damnation under capitalism.

(Continued on page 6.)

CONGRESSIONAL

AGREERS DISPUTE, DISRUPTERS AGREE.

Curious Spectacle Presented in Congress During Debate on the 25th Regiment—The Race Question Raised—The Labor Question Palpitant—The Senators Get Tangled in Their Own Meshes.

Last week's events in the Senate furnished an up-to-date living picture of the picture drawn by Dante of one of the pits of his Hell.

The subject of debate was the conduct of the President in summary discharging the colored 25th Regiment. That was the occasion. The matter debated was the race question. The matter actually in the minds of the debaters was the Labor Question. This fact, however, they all sought to conceal. In concealing it the debaters misled one another, and thereby presented the aspect of the tortured souls in that particular pit of Dante's Hell.

Tillman, for some inscrutable reason, attacked the President's action. The victimized troops in question being negro, Tillman found the Southern Senators solidly arrayed against him and on the side of the President. The wordy Bacon of Georgia, the fire-eating Culbertson of Texas, the "logician" Carmack of Tennessee, the dull Foster of Louisiana—in short all these "negro-killers" were seen cheek-by-jowl with the Black-Republican Lodge, the "constitutionalist" Spooner, the "law and orderite" Penrose of Pennsylvania, in "upholding the President."—It is no difficult matter to read between the lines of the pro-Presidentialist speeches, and see and hear them say: "Now, Tillman, now, Foster, do you not realize that by browbeating this negro regiment, we are but preparing the way to browbeat all the other regiments, and thereby render them blindly subservient to our common will whenever we shall need them to ride roughshod over the working class?"

The subject actually on the minds of the debaters being the Labor Question, the constitutionality or unconstitutionality of the President's act in the summary discharge of the 25th Regiment could not and did not keep the Senators to the question. Insensibly each one of them slid periodically away from the subject and got into his usual groove. At such periods of the debate all the Southern Senators would be seen lining up with Tillman in denunciation, all the Northern Senators joining in the defence of the negro race. At such periods it was no difficult matter to read between the lines of the speeches of Tillman and his accomplices, and to see and hear them make the retort courteous to the northern Senators in these words: "Now, gentlemen of the North, do you not realize that by browbeating the negro race we are browbeating the bulk of the working class in the South? Don't you realize that we are thereby laying the pipes for you, to do the same thing in the North, browbeat the working class there into submission? How can you attack us so? It is against your, our common interest!"

These mutually implied but never loudly uttered reproaches constitute the feature of the tangled debate on the 25th Regiment during this week in the Senate. Reproaches became reproaches, reproaches turned insensibly into reproaches, each, in turn assuming the characteristics of the other, an inevitable thing seeing that both were bound by a common bond—class interests against the working class.

And so it was in that Dantean pit of Hell. The common bond of the sin of hypocrisy caused the bodies flung into that pit, and who wrestled incessantly with one another, ever to assume the others' shapes. Insensibly each wrestler was transmuted into his adversary, the two then broke away and the struggle started anew.

So was it in Congress last week.

CINCINNATI, ATTENTION.

Entertainment, Euchre and Lunch will be given by the Cincinnati I. W. W. Council at I. W. W. Hall, 12th and Jackson streets, SATURDAY evening, January 26th. Everybody come and bring your friends for a good time.

MEDICAL SCIENCE AND SOCIALISM

By Arthur H. De Mendoza, M. D.
[Editor The People.]

Dear Comrade:—At your earliest convenience, if it please you, you may allow me space for enclosed article.

Come siempore,

Per la Revolution,

A. H. De Mendoza.

Chicago, Ill., January 12.]

Science in its most primitive sense is to know. To know medicine involves the science of humanity, without humanity medical science ceases to be a science. Humanity then applies a physical, mental and moral being. In the application of the science of medicine due regard must be paid to the body with all its complexity, a co-ordination of the physical forces of which is so essential to the welfare of the whole, and therefore we must adjust our therapeutics so that it may affect the mental, physical and moral.

The greatest aim of medical science should be to cure the curable diseases, to prevent by hygienic and economic laws the preventable diseases. We can safely say that the only way that this end can be obtained is by diligent study of all the economic and physical causes of disease, so that we may apply this knowledge to prevent and cure the diseases that man may suffer. This is the basic principle of all rational therapeutics. Is it rational therapeutics for any one to know the cause of certain diseases and not attempt to prevent the same? What would you think of a man who knowing nothing of a locomotive, should mount the cab of the engine, open the throttle and run the train with hundreds of its passengers without knowing the road, its curves, its up and down grades, not knowing when to open and put on the brakes and lead all this mass of humanity to eternity? Now, is it not more rational if the engineer had studied all the intricate mechanism of his locomotive, and all the peculiarities of the road, rails, curves and what not, in order to safely get the passengers to their destination? The truth is that the medical science has much to learn in preventative medicine, and this means up to date nothing less than applied science and which deals with the preservation of the health both of the individual and the community.

Dr. Richard C. Cabot by invitation before the Norfolk Medical Society, April 17, 1906, read the following subject: "The Renaissance of Therapeutics." "I believe it is coming to be recognized as a legitimate and indeed an essential part of therapeutics TO SEEK FOR THE RELIEF OF ANY CAUSE THAT IS PRODUCING DISEASE, NO MATTER HOW FAR AWAY WE HAVE TO GO TO REACH THAT CAUSE."

To be thorough is the first of our medical ideas. To treat symptoms without doing our level best to find and remove the cause, is to be criminally negligent. The search for this may carry us far beyond what are ordinarily conceived to be the boundaries of medicine. We may have to investigate the family affairs, industrial conditions, love affairs, school and college problems, all apparently far enough from the practice of physical diagnosis and drug therapy. But how often this has happened before in the history of medicine. When the neurologist had to learn the laws and workings of electricity and the general practitioner had to become familiar with the use of the microscope they had to advance far beyond the boundaries of medicine, and I doubt whether in the beginning they realized the necessity. One after another of the sister sciences we medical men have had to invade and to some extent to master in order to make use of them in our work. To chemistry, organic and inorganic, we now have to add some smattering of physical chemistry. To pathology we had to add bacteriology. The science of statistics and knowledge of diseases of animals are fields which we have found it impossible to keep out of. Now we have begun to annex psychology and sociology.

THE NECESSITY IS THE SAME THAT FORCED US TO TAKE UP PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY—THEIR LAWS ARE INEXTRICABLY INTERWOVEN WITH PHENOMENA OF DISEASE. To understand and to treat our patients we have had to deal with all the causes that go to produce their maladies, so far as we can reach these causes. The recognition of social and psychological factors as causes of disease and the measurably successful effort to reach and to modify these causes, is one of the most striking works of the present rebirth of therapeutics.

Now these words carry conviction to any one, except those that cannot direct themselves fully of the bourgeois psychology.

Dr. E. A. Knott of New York, in an address before the Laennec Society of Johns Hopkins hospital Nov. 23, 1905, on the subject of "Tuberculosis a Social

Disease," concluded his essay with these words:

"Let me conclude this altogether too lengthy paper, saying that, to my mind, the solution of the tuberculosis problem means the solution of the social problem. Whatever prevents the development of tuberculosis will prevent social misery, whatever cures it will help to cure the social ills. Inasmuch as we diminish tuberculosis among the masses we will diminish suffering, misery and social discontent, and when the problem of tuberculosis shall have been solved we shall be nearer the millennium than ever before."

Do these burning sentences convey anything to the bourgeois mind? Certainly they do not, because the spectre of doing away with the causes of all preventable diseases means to do away with the profits, interests and rents of this system. It means to do away with the entire capitalist system. It means that if we do not change this system there is no hope for ever seeing diminished suffering, misery and social discontent.

The new therapeutics wants nothing short of Socialism, yes, scientific Socialism, and this is the only recognition that can be paid by the inevitable demands of that ever-searching therapeutics of the twentieth century. Herbert Spencer saw the coming of Socialism and said so, and we may as well accept it with good grace. Science must readjust itself if it wishes to redeem itself. In the words of Ernest Untermann, author of "Science and Revolution," only the universe is immortal and it cannot be destroyed. If the human mind wishes to share in this immortality, and avoid being hurled into the abyss of oblivion it has only one course open before it. The science can only endorse any genuine movement for the promotion of an environment in which an organ of understanding can develop which will succeed in controlling the universal process. It is only the philosophy of the proletariat which furnishes a scientific basis for the realization of the most daring dreams of the thinkers of all ages. The proletarian mind, conscious of its origin, its present and future place in society and universe, its social, terrestrial and cosmic mission can exclaim triumphantly, "I WAS, I AM, AND I SHALL BE."

Children Hope of Future.

The hope of the medical science of a future society depends chiefly upon the children of to-day. The great men, the geniuses in music, art, in mechanics, men of literature and great statesmen, must come out of the children of to-day. The great productivity of the future must come from men, the children of to-day. Then if the children of to-day are the hope of to-morrow, is it right to lend a deaf ear to the demands of the children of to-day?

What about our mothers who bear the whole burden of these children of to-day? Do we surround them with those conditions that are necessary for the hope of to-morrow? Listen to the records of the children of to-day. Dr. C. G. Herley of New York reports among the thousands of children who have been treated at the Outpatient Department Baby's Hospital, New York, as follows: Of thousands of children, all over one year old, 20 per cent were normal, all under one year old, 35 per cent were normal. Then the report cites the causes as follows: First the rooms are close and ill ventilated; second, want of cleanliness; third, want of proper food; fourth, forced outings in unclean streets; fifth, wretched dwellings.

The above causes certainly explain the 80 per cent. defectives over one year old and the 65 per cent. under one year old. The report concludes by saying that heredity played an insignificant part as compared with nutrition and environment.

Child Criminals.

In the recently established juvenile court in New York City 7,643 young criminals had passed the judge's hand in 1903; 4,790 were sentenced; 453 were under 7 years old; 949 between 7 and 12 years of age; 1,487 were between 12 and 14 years of age; 1,952 were between 14 and 16 years of age; 399 were arrested for burglary; 927 for larceny under \$25 and 300 for over \$25.

Ninety per cent of all cases that came before the juvenile court were born and raised under conditions which could produce nothing but criminals and degenerates. Isabel R. Wallack reported through the New York Times December 28, 1902, that there were 8,500 children in the public schools in New York City, who were making no visible progress, also that the number was being steadily increased. These children, she adds, are mentally deficient, but there is not a single idiot or imbecile among them, the mentally diseased were cured elsewhere. The census of 1900 shows that children between

10 and 14 years who are illiterate numbered 579,947.

In Great Britain a royal commission was appointed to find the causes of the degeneracy of the nation's children. In a debate in the House of Lords between Lord Meath and Bishop Ripon on July 16, 1903, this question was raised and the Duke of Devonshire, President of the Council, admitted that Great Britain's military and industrial outlook was seriously threatened. The same question was brought to the House of Commons and Sir William Anson, Secretary of the Board of Education, declared that 60,000 children now attending London's schools were unfit for instruction. Sir Frederick Morris stated that 60 per cent of men who applied for admission were physically unfit for military service. The report of the royal commission of Great Britain gave as causes of the deterioration and physical degeneration as follows: First, insufficient and poor food; second, defective housing and overcrowding; third, unsanitary surroundings.

Four hundred thousand lived in single-room tenements; 40,000 people lived five in a room; 8,000 people lived seven in a room.

In the British Isles 3,250,000 lived with an average of three persons to one room. All these reports can be duplicated in the United States of America, France, and all of the nations of the world. A royal commission was appointed to find the causes of the decreasing birth rate in New South Wales, the commission was composed of thirteen members, six of which were physicians. The conclusions of the report were as follows: "That diminution of fertility and fecundity in recent years, was due to the deliberate prevention of conception and destruction of embryonic life, and that there were no well defined economic causes. Nevertheless the fact could not be overlooked that restrictive regulation of trade designed to abolish competition and interfering with continuity of employment, rendering the income of those employed more precarious."

The report concludes by saying that the fall of the birth rate in twenty years was 30 per cent. New South Wales lost since 1860 280,000 from this cause alone. Australia nearly 1,000,000. The mind that produced diphtheria anti-toxin is certainly a genius, but the man who can lead us out of a social state where the children are working in looms, manipulating textile machines, turning out fabrics by the million yards and profits for the few, and when those few are looked upon as the captains of industry, that man, I repeat, is the greatest scientist in the world. The man who lies awake all night thinking of the children with pinched faces, emaciated bodies and stunted brains deserves the gratitude of all mankind; but the man who can teach us the laws of evolution and revolution out of this degrading system to a system where all men work in a co-operative spirit deserves the blessing of humanity.

When all scientists work to save all humankind we will have less use for drugs. Meanwhile let us rejoice anyway in the science of the proletariat and let Dr. Ferri speak for him. "But another great illusion survived, and in this case hidden in the social science as well. It is the illusion which makes, without expressly stating it, the society in which we live, the center and the final end of human history. Thanks to that illusion, the political economy of the nineteenth century could give, in place of eternal and invariable laws, sociological laws which refer only to particular periods of social evolution, namely, to our capitalist civilization, which is not centuries old in England and not even one century old in Europe and America. This illusion transports into science that rule of absolute and cold objectivity 'Science for the sake of Science' which is quite admissible in the physical sciences, but impossible for sociology. There the rule cannot be other than 'Science for life's sake,' for in sociology man is at once the observer and the observed, the judge and the judged."

"The dizzy development of industrial technology from the pre-historic and savage industry of the stone age through hand manufacture to the great contemporary machinery has had too great ineffaceable counter-effects in life and science."

"In life on the one hand it has pushed to unthought of proportions the domination of man over the forces of nature, from heat—the first conquest of humanity over the cosmic energy—to electricity."

"On the other hand, it has substituted the medieval form of private property in the instruments and products of work by the artisan, by the capitalist form of private property which accumulates the means of production and the products of labor in the hands of those who do not work, the capitalist, and oppose to them the anonymous and always increasing mass of wage workers."

—Arthur H. De Mendoza, M. D.

A VAST CORPORATION

Westinghouse Electric Interests Employ 38,000 Persons.

Figures recently issued by the Westinghouse Companies, embracing the allied Westinghouse interests throughout the world, reveal the fact that the American factories employ 31,775 men, and have a floor space of 5,356,607 square feet. These figures do not include the employees of the Westinghouse Automatic Air and Steam Coupler Company, Westinghouse Church Kerr Company, and the Westinghouse Traction Brake Company.

The Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company reports a floor space of 2,422,000 square feet, but extensions under way will result in a large increase. The floor space of all American and European companies aggregates 7,000,000 square feet.

The report of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company as of March 31, 1906, gave the number of employees as 14,705. The pamphlet just issued states that the company employs 17,500, an increase of 3,000 over the number given in the last annual report. In 1901 the total number of employees, exclusive of the selling organization, was 7,971.

The following table gives the number

Year	Westinghouse
1906-7	\$40,000,000
1905-6	24,939,600
1904-5	16,570,700
1903-4	18,569,900
1902-3	19,571,300
1901-2	17,927,300
1900-1	12,516,000
*Estimated.	

The following table gives a list of the Westinghouse allied companies in

Company	Capital	Floor Space	Employees
American Brake Company	\$2,000,000	130,080	350
Bryant Electric Company	2,500,000	154,457	706
Canadian West., Ltd.	5,000,000	208,470	1,200
Cooper Hewitt El. Company	2,000,000	18,000	125
Hernst Lamp Company	3,000,000	85,000	550
R. D. Nutall Company	600,000	75,000	250
Perkins Ed. Switch Company	125,000	.....	350
Pittsburg Meter Company	1,000,000	66,000	250
Sawyer-Man. El. Company	125,000	105,000	700
Union Sw. & Sig. Company	2,250,000	342,000	2,400
Westing. Air Brake	11,000,000	630,000	3,800
Westing. Auto Air Company	5,000,000	.....	427
Westing. Church Kerr Company	.....	.....	.....
Westing. Elec. & Mfg. Company	25,000,000	2,422,000	17,500
Westing. Foundry Company	50,000	370,000	600
Westing. Machine Company	10,000,000	750,000	3,000
Westing. Tract. Brake Company	100,000	.....	.....
Totals	\$71,150,000	5,356,607	31,775

The company gives a summary of factories, floor space, etc., in America and

	America & Europe	America
Number factories	24	.....
Capitalization	\$120,000,000	\$71,150,000
Floor space sq. ft.	7,000,000	5,356,607
Number of offices	210	.....
Number of employees	38,000	31,775
Annual output	\$ 90,000,000	.....

It is safe to say that, including the Westinghouse Church Kerr Company and other concerns, the Westinghouse Com-

pany employs at the close of each of the six fiscal years to March 31, 1906, and the number on January 1, 1907:

Year	Employees
Jan. 31, 1907	17,500
March 31, 1906	14,705
" " 1905	11,894
" " 1904	10,622
" " 1903	11,622
" " 1902	9,305
" " 1901	7,971

The growth of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company business over the last six years has been enormous, and serves to explain new electrical security issues for purposes of extensions.

The Westinghouse Company in the year 1901, for example, did a gross business of \$12,516,000. This fiscal year, it is expected to do a gross business of approximately \$40,000,000. While the production of steel over the last six years has been larger than in any similar period in history, it seems that the growth of electrical production is even more pronounced.

For example, the United States Steel Corporation in 1902 did a gross business of \$560,510,000, and its gross business in 1906 will aggregate about \$700,000,000.

The following table shows the gross business of the United States Steel Corporation and that of the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company over a series of years:

Year	Westinghouse	Year	U. S. Steel
1906-7	\$40,000,000	1906	\$700,000,000
1905-6	24,939,600	1905	585,331,700
1904-5	16,570,700	1904	444,405,400
1903-4	18,569,900	1903	536,572,900
1902-3	19,571,300	1902	560,510,000

America and their capital stock, floor space and number of employees:

Company	Capital	Floor Space	Employees
American Brake Company	\$2,000,000	130,080	350
Bryant Electric Company	2,500,000	154,457	706
Canadian West., Ltd.	5,000,000	208,470	1,200
Cooper Hewitt El. Company	2,000,000	18,000	125
Hernst Lamp Company	3,000,000	85,000	550
R. D. Nutall Company	600,000	75,000	250
Perkins Ed. Switch Company	125,000	350
Pittsburg Meter Company	1,000,000	66,000	250
Sawyer-Man. El. Company	125,000	105,000	700
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Westing. Machine Company	10,000,000	750,000	3,000
Westing. Tract. Brake Company	100,000
Totals	\$71,150,000	5,356,607	31,775

Europe, which compare with the figures above as follows:

	America & Europe	America
Number factories	24	.....
Capitalization	\$120,000,000	\$71,150,000
Floor space sq. ft.	7,000,000	5,356,607
Number of offices	210	.....
Number of employees	38,000	31,775
Annual output	\$ 90,000,000	.....

pany employs in America alone in the neighborhood of 35,000 men.—Wall Street Journal.

DEADLY CONTRAST

HOW "OUR" OVERWHELMING PROSPERITY LOOKS, WHEN STATED IN TERMS OF WHOLESOME MURDER OF THE WORKING CLASS.

The following parallel readings, from different pages of the same Southern capitalist sheet, tell their tale, without prologue:

Overwhelming Prosperity.

According to figures recently sent out from New York, ten years ago our yearly production of coal was 170,000,000 tons, and we thought it a heap. Last year we mined 400,000,000 tons. In 1896 we produced 8,600,000 tons of pigiron. Last year we produced 25,000,000 tons. Our copper output of ten years ago was 240,000,000 pounds. It is now 900,000,000 pounds. In 1896 we dragged from the bowels of the earth minerals and mineral substances worth about \$625,000,000. The value of our mineral product in 1906 approximates \$2,000,000,000.

When we add to this the abundant harvests and the enormous increase in the volume of our manufactures, it is no wonder that the whole country should be clamoring for capital and the railroads should be unable to accommodate the traffic that is crowding upon them. The question that is now troubling us is how we are to take care of our production. We are fairly overwhelmed with prosperity. It is a unique situation.—Editorial, page 4, Richmond, Va., Dispatch, January 8.

Murderous Industrialism.

If the United States were to engage annually in war resulting in a loss of 550,000 injured and killed, the entire country would soon rise in protest against such senseless loss of human life.

But, unknown to the average citizen, a peaceful warfare, entailing a loss of over half a million in killed and injured is annually being waged in this country to-day, and gives promise of continuing for some time to come. This stupendous loss results from the intense struggle of 29,000,000 wage earners for international industrial supremacy.

The rank and file of the army directly engaged in it is composed of the sturdy American artisan, while indirectly it affects fifty million more—the family unit—dependent upon his efforts for support.—The World Today—Page 12, Richmond, Va., Dispatch, January 9.

WOMAN'S FIELD

A CALL TO HER TO BECOME THE EVE WHO WILL OFFER THE APPLE OF SOCIALIST KNOWLEDGE TO MAN.

(By Rhoda M. Brooks.)

It is one of the evidences of being a truly good Socialist not to run away with ideas on side issues that cannot better workingmen and women. Many are misled because they are not well grounded in the fact that there can be no "reform," no change whatsoever that means the whole of what is produced to the worker; no movement that will not rob the workingmen and women of a share of what is produced, save only Socialism, the revolutionary movement which means justice to all.

When you are driving a nail you hit it on the head over and over again. The harder and more true the blows, the sooner the nail will be driven home. Little taps do not accomplish good results. This also is true of arguments and efforts to change existing things and conditions to better the world for us all. Little taps on the head of this evil, and uncertain blows on top of that injustice will never bring about any great good for the wage earners.

It is as well to work for a private corporation as a public one, and no better in either case. Under present conditions whoever employs you must exploit you, else he or it (if a corporation) would not be "doing business." This being a fact what good will any "reform" do the working man or woman? "Reform" in taxation means nothing special. Will it increase your pay? Not one cent. A slight reduction in taxes on the little home the workingman may have pinched himself and family to pay for, does not mean any real and lasting benefit. What he does not pay in taxes will have to go for a living, for it is an unfailing law that wages are governed by supply and demand, and if the supply is greater than the demand, wages will be the lowest price at which any one can work and that is the lowest cost of living. So, you see, the capitalist is bound to get all you have whether taxes are much or little.

What good would municipal ownership do you? Will that increase your wages a farthing? No. It will only be changing a private master for a public one, either of which will force you to work for the lowest possible wage upon which you can barely live.

Labor is a commodity. It is bought, and sold the same as corn or potatoes. Your employer buys your labor and you sell it to him. He only pays you the price at which he can get any one else to work for, the lower the better for him. This is true whether your employer is a man, a company, a corporation or the government.

Then, will you please consider what earthly difference the questions of taxes or municipal ownership can make to you as a real issue upon which to base the hope of bettering yourself? Will either "reform" raise your pay? Not the fraction of a cent, because there would be just as many workers who must have jobs as there are now; and that supply being greater than the demand, wages will not rise above what the man willing to work for the lowest can be hired for.

A few days ago a mail man in the city of Buffalo was complaining to me that the pay for his work was no more than it was twenty years ago, while the cost of living is much greater. That illustrates the point that the government, like the private employer, will pay just as little as it can get work done for; or that is controlled by the supply of workers it can get, which always is greater than it needs or the demand. Is a man or woman any better off working for a small wage if the government is

the employer than he or she would be if working for a private individual who squeezes him or her down to the lowest wage? You certainly can see it is all one and the same thing.

Workingmen and women have enough to think about, to work for, to fight over, without being drawn into side issues of such a description. Neither can war or outbursts of false patriotism be any help to those who are being exploited out of the largest share of what they produce. What Mr. Greathhead is doing to better the world, a so-called "philanthropist," is but the misleading vanity which pretends to make something out of nothing. The little muddy, side streams that pour into a river at flood tide, are not of any value to the river, only they swell it and make it roily at a time when no one wants more water. So, the branching off into side issues may swell the political stream and fill commercial rivulets, but they mean nothing to wage workers.

The question with every employer is, how he can get work done for so little that his profit will increase. He is not concerned with how you and I live—whether we have three or one meal a day. His interests are all opposite to ours, and so we do his work to his advantage, he cares nothing how we live. Of course, he may pretend he is anxious to see us "get on" and all that, but our "getting on" must first of all mean benefit to him or he will soon show us the other side of his great interest in us. Give him his dollar, keep your twenty cents and he thinks you "a pretty smart, rising sort of a man." But ask him for more of that dollar you produce, and he will curse as one "who does not know enough to let well enough alone." Yes, that is his interest in you, and his running your opinions off toward side issues that mean nothing better for you is proof that he sees some benefit in it for himself. It may be simply a stronger chain to bind you to the wheel which is breaking you into an old, worn out, life-tired man or woman. What does he care for that? He must have his "profit" and your happiness, strength, joy of life and everything you possess are mere bagatelles to him—not worth his consideration.

And you are allowing this? Oh, yes. You blindly fancy that this or that means "better times" for you and yours. Or you are ignorant enough to imagine your employer has the same interests as yourself. Poor deluded man or woman! Awake from your hopeless dream, and realize that nothing can do you any good but your own sense of what is really a remedy (not reform), for the hard, grinding life you now have. Drag along year after year; see your children slave and grow old before they have had any youth; leave hope of really living behind and merely be the animal this system forces you to be; but in the end realize that you have had the power to make life for yourself and others a joy, a boon, an uplift, if only you had not been "like dumb driven cattle" in the hands of those who have exploited you and yours even as the spider sucks dry the carcasses of the fly it lures into its web.

WOMAN, to you I appeal. Do not permit this curse to go on. Arouse yourselves, work and fight for the truth. Become the Eve who offers the apple from the Tree of Knowledge to man. He stupidly allows himself to be made a victim, while dragging you down into the net that leaves all useless and swept aside like the dead fly. SISTERS, forward! Let our watchword be SOCIALISM.

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AS TO POLITICS, ONCE MORE

St. Louis, Mo.—It is with doubt as to being allowed space in the columns of The People that the undersigned take the decision to express their opinion in regard to Comrade Sandgren's article. We realize the degree of annoyance that we are causing the editor by our action; and were it not for the fact that we have seen in The People so many redactions cast at the privately owned press of the S. P. in regard to refusals to publish whatever is not to their heart, we would, most assuredly, try to kill our temptation to give out what is our honest and sincere conviction.

We know that our opinion is that of thousands of members of the Industrial Workers of the World, and consequently ask for the same privilege that we both have been granted in the past, when our views were not at variance with the attitude of The People.

After reading and rereading carefully both Sandgren's article, and the answer of the editor of The People, after giving the matter earnest consideration from all view points for the last three weeks, we arrived at the conclusion that, of all the answers that Comrade De Leon has made in his life in capacity of editor of The People, the one just mentioned must be the poorest and the weakest one. Not that he is no more the same brilliant writer, but that the time has come when he is in the wrong, defending a wrong cause. Why and how is this thus? We shall see.

In order to be better understood, we would like to refer the reader to the two articles in question, which are published in the Weekly People of December 1, 1906, under the title "As to Politics." But as every one who will happen to lay hands on this number may not be in a position to get that one, we shall give here the quintessence of Sandgren's article.

His contention is that the political activity is useless and harmful, and that the emancipation of the working class can be accomplished through economic revolutionary organization only. In the first part of the article, which in our opinion is a complete failure, Sandgren endeavors to prove that the working class are not in the majority the ballot box. Unless Sandgren tried to be altogether "original" we do not understand how a man of his caliber could have ventured such an absurdity. This we consider a waste of time to take up for discussion.

In the second part of the article, he admirably shows the impotence of a political organization, and also how fitted an economic organization is to bear the struggle. "Ten hour laws have been declared unconstitutional in the State of New York. . . . In the meantime the Western Federation of Miners and many unions of the A. F. of L. even, have an eight hour day and a minimum wage. Have they been declared unconstitutional? No, and they did not gain it through political action, but through economic organization. The advocates of political working class activity predicate their success upon being 'backed up' by an economic organization which is to take the chestnuts out of the fire for them. The economic organization stands on its own legs and declines political 'assistance'."

The economic organization makes just such demands as it is able to enforce, and it is able to make demands and enforce them from the very first; it does not have to wait for the busy day when we shall have a majority. And now comes De Leon's answer. He says that "the basic error that underlies Sandgren's reasoning" is the confusion of the POLITICAL AGITATION with the BALLOT.

The two are distinct, says the editor. "How completely the vital distinction is missed by those who oppose political action is graphically illustrated by a favorite argument among them, an argument that Sandgren reproduces in beautifully pictorial style, when he says that for the working class to waste their time on the building up and maintaining of a political organization which they afterwards have to 'back up' only to awaken to a realization of its impotence, would be like crossing the river to fill your water bucket when you can just as well get your water on this side."

First of all Comrade Sandgren—as well as all of us industrial workers, who dropped ballot box activity—gives the Socialist political agitation its due credit when it says: "Both these organizations (the S. P. and the S. L. P.) maintain that there is a war between the two classes. In the war both of them have rendered splendid service. . . . They have done well as propaganda societies, but that is all they

have ever been, their names and platforms notwithstanding. . . . Their role is now played." This means that Sandgren does not confuse political agitation with the ballot; he only rejects the ballot, which, as a constructive force, even in the opinion of the editor is zero. In order to make this point clear, let us analyze the nature of a Socialist political party activity. In the first place it is an incessant criticism of the actual system of society based on the private ownership of the means of life, to which it intends to substitute another system, based on the social or collective ownership of those means—the co-operative commonwealth. This is the political nature of it.

On the other hand this Socialist political party activity consists of a laborious propaganda for the attainment of that social system, a propaganda for the class struggle on the political field, which "implies the setting up of a 'ticket,' and that, in turn, implies the 'ballot.'"

But if the ballot, as a constructive force is zero, so must necessarily be all the amount of work spent in getting that ballot such as holding nomination conventions, caucuses, getting signatures on petitions watching at the polls, etc., etc. And we know that most of the energy of a Socialist political party is wasted on that zero proposition.

A revolutionary organization of the working class that aims at the overthrow of the capitalist system and the establishment of the co-operative commonwealth is essentially political in character—and such is the I. W. W., as Comrade De Leon himself ably proved in his Chicago speech on September 12, 1906.

The one who does confuse the political agitation with the ballot is De Leon. It is he who uses the word political agitation or politics in the meaning of ballot agitation. On page 32 of the Preamble of the I. W. W. he says: "A part, the better, the constructive part of Socialist economics, translates itself into the industrial organization of the working class; it translates itself into that formation that outlines the mould of the future social system; another part of Socialist economics, however, inevitably translates itself into politics." Should he not confuse the political agitation with the ballot, he would never denigrate a revolutionary industrial organization "that outlines the mould of the future society" of its sufficiency to carry on the political agitation of the working class, and give this function to another organization which, as we have seen is spending its energy on a zero proposition—at the working class expense.

The Industrial Workers of the World sufficiently fulfils that role of a political party of Socialism by that that it aims at the co-operative commonwealth and it teaches the class struggle on the industrial field where every victory is a step towards the social revolution—and doesn't waste the energy of the working class on a zero proposition, on something that not only may be lost, but that is always lost.

So much in regard to confusing the political agitation with the ballot.

Now to "the point at issue." "The very point at issue," the editor says further, "is whether that economic organization, 'able to fill the bucket' can at all be brought together without the political agitation; the very point at issue is whether the political ignoring economic organization has hitherto accomplished anything of lasting value for the working class at large; or to put it in a third and summary form, whether the decline of power with the economic organization is not due to its contradictory posture of 'voting' for one thing and striking for its opposite. Of course, if such a thing is conceivable as the bringing together of an industrial organization able to fill the bucket without the aid of political agitation, it were folly to waste time, energy and funds in building up and maintaining a political organization."

Let us ask Comrade De Leon why is he beating around the bushes? What does he mean by politics ignoring economic organization? Does he mean the Industrial Workers of the World, or the American Federation of Labor? His allusion to "the decline of power with the economic organization" on account of "its contradictory posture of voting for one thing and striking for its opposite" conveys to our minds the A. F. of L. and not that economic organization "able to fill the water buckets," the "I. W. W." which is now under discussion.

And since when is Comrade De Leon willing to admit that the A. F. of L. as an organization, is doing on the economic field the opposite of what its members are doing on the political field? This sounds very familiar to

those who have heard the pure and simple political Socialist appeal to the pure and simple craft unionist to vote as he strikes. But let us not indulge any longer in these non essentials. The question is "whether that economic organization able to fill the bucket can at all be brought together without the aid of political agitation". Before answering this question, let us consider the nature and the activity of an economic organization, such as the I. W. W.

Like the political party of Socialism, it aims at the overthrowing of the present system; it aims to take possession of the tools of production from the capitalist class and operate them for the benefit of the working class, which will be the whole of society.

But for the attainment of this end, the economic organization, fighting the class struggle on the industrial field, it organizes the workers in their various locals, industries and departments in order to make them able to cope with modern capitalism in their everyday fight, and wrest concessions from that class locally, industrially or generally, as the case may be—concessions which, unlike the politician's reforms, are steps towards the revolution, as they put the working class more and more in control of the industries in which they are working.

It is founded on the recognition of the fact of the division of society into two classes, between which a struggle must go on, until all the toilers will come together and take over the means of production. Its aim is revolutionary, its activity political. It is revolutionary and political because its aim is to change the foundation of this society from an exchange of commodities to the co-operative commonwealth. In other words it is not like the pure and simple union, which acts as buffer between the opposing forces—the capitalist class and the working class—but it is one of these forces organized.

Such an organization as the I. W. W. is brought about by the modern economic conditions, that is, by the industrial development and the revolutionary propaganda, absolutely independent of any ballot party activity, which has an altogether different function, as we have seen.

Of all that preceded we cannot see at all where the role of a ballot organization comes in. In his attempt to answer Comrade Sandgren, the editor tells us of the "jewel" of "civilized or peaceful methods of settling disputes." If this is the only argument left to defend an organization which wastes our time and energy and funds, then we can rest assured that the industrial organization is the only thing able to fill the bucket or to accomplish the revolution. He might as well tell us about those lovely seances of looking each other in the eyes. They are more to the question.

But it is an irony of fate to hear men telling us of settling disputes. Is that the reason for which we are organizing? We are organizing to struggle, and not to settle disputes, which have never been settled in the interests of the working class.

Nothing could settle disputes better than a powerful organization—able to strike terror in the heart of the capitalist class—would. Confronted with such an organization the capitalist class would either have to submit or bear the consequences.

The methods employed by the revolutionary industrial organization are peaceful and civilized enough for the working class. We are assembling peacefully and in a civilized manner discuss matters of our class interest which we afterwards submit to the capitalist class in form of demands. We cannot understand how Comrade De Leon jumps at the conclusion that the I. W. W. agitation—which he terms "agitation for force only"—has to degenerate into conspiracy, which excludes the masses. The industrial agitation is not and cannot degenerate into a "conspiracy" for the simple reason that it is preached in the open, and thereby enables the Revolution to be brought before the million masses. Not only does the industrial organization bring the revolution before the million masses, but it also draws the million masses to its ranks and keeps aloof the hard pushed middle class element, with its lawyers, priests and intellectuals in general—in a word all that is foreign to the working class. It draws all the toilers of all nationalities; citizens and noncitizens; all the disfranchised, all the tramps and "coffee-and-doughnuts," which are able to beat their way from Frisco all the way through the "wild west" to Chicago in order to do their own business.

As far as the "chance to a peaceful solution" goes, we are very little concerned about it. It does not depend on the working class how the last blow will have to be struck. If the capitalists will not be satisfied with a de-

gree to step out, we can rest assured that they will, most likely, get worse.

The events that have taken place in the last sixteen or seventeen months have taught us more than the preceding two decades. They have taught us not only that the political party agitation is useless, but harmful to the industrial organization from the Pacific to the Atlantic. We have seen men eagerly listening to the industrial speaker, accidentally being an S. L. P. man, start to show the "difference" or something of that sort, then the men would turn away with a sneer at "the politician."

That the ballot agitation is harmful to the bringing together of an economic organization able to fill the bucket, is obvious; so obvious is this fact that, at the last convention of the I. W. W. we have witnessed Comrade De Leon make a motion to the effect that no organizer of any political party should be employed as organizer for the Industrial Workers of the World. Yes, one year of I. W. W. agitation and experience has brought about great changes in the revolutionary thought in this country. Men that but a few months ago were feeling as touching an extremely delicate spot when speaking of non party affiliation clause of the I. W. W. Preamble, are now dropping politics without any reservation mentalis.

And let us not for a minute fool ourselves and think that this is merely a passing crisis, a temporary manifestation of a few over-heated brains.

No! This let-alone-politics tendency that we now are noticing in this country is the American expression of a general tendency of the revolutionary working class the world over. In Italy, Spain, Switzerland, and France and even Germany with its great three-million-strong-paper-party we can see the same thing.

In a lengthy article by our Parisian comrade A. Bruckner, recently published in The People, we can see how the working class of France, tired of political parties, is gathering in a revolutionary organization, "The General Federation of Labour," after dropping politics altogether and adopting the "direct action." The history of this let-alone-politics tendency in Europe would make a mighty interesting and instructive work, which would considerably help in the understanding of the great change that is going on in the revolutionary thought of the working class of the world.

Before closing we would like to say that, in writing this article, we have not been actuated by any prejudice against any particular man or party; that in speaking against ballot activity we have meant all the Socialist parties of the world.

We have been good, faithful members of Socialist parties in Europe and in America for many years, but our experience as wage slaves has showed us that we have been in the wrong. We expressed our opinion, which we are sure, will not meet with the approval of those who have forgotten nothing and learned nothing by years of bitter experience.

Jo. Wagner.
Leon Vasilio.

[The question repeatedly asked to the advocates of physical force only, who have favored us with their contribution, remains unanswered: "How do you expect to recruit and organize your Industrial army if you begin by rejecting the peaceful method of solving the Social Question, to wit, the political method? It is significant that none of our opponents has cared to meet this point. They all give that question a wide berth. Instead of covering the only point that is decisive they go into a vast number of subjects that may or may not be so, but have nothing to do with the real point—HOW?"]

The nearest our above esteemed contributors come to an answer on this particular point is the passage: the "I. W. W. sufficiently fulfils the role of a political party of Socialism by that that it aims at the co-operative commonwealth and teaches the class struggle on the industrial field." This statement is doubly defective.

To "aim" at a thing is enough, then to "wish" for it should be equally sufficient. Every practical mind knows that wishes and aims, like steam, must be in the boiler of a properly organized machine before results can be obtained. Wishes are good, aims still better. Without the organization to realize them they are—well, so much hot air. The question is how to recruit the elements that will constitute the requisite organization.

The second defect in the passage is still more marked. It is fatal to the contention of the anti-political agitator. Indeed the I. W. W. "teaches the class struggle," and can teach it freely, and freely can proclaim its purpose to "take and hold," but it can do so only because it plants itself upon the non-Russian, that is, upon the civilized principle of solving social difficulties. The I. W. W. expressly recognizes the necessity of working class unity "on the POLITICAL as well as upon the industrial field."

So doing the I. W. W. can preach and teach in the open. Its posture is clear—to organize the economic body that shall be able to reflect its own political party, whereby to give a chance to the peaceful settlement of the present social "unpleasantness," and that shall, withal, have the requisite power to enforce the fiat of its ballot. To say that the I. W. W. can freely teach the class struggle, now that its preamble is so wise and sound, is a substantial denial of the claim put forth by our correspondents that political agitation is worthless. Let the I. W. W. follow our correspondents' views and strike out the political clause, that moment they will find out that the present revolutionary agitation conducted by the I. W. W. will have come to an end. Having placed itself upon the plane which the Russian revolutionists are constrained to agitate on, the I. W. W. will be treated to a dose which it will itself have invited, a dose of Russian governmental terrorism. . . . So far from having contributed to raise the tone of the country, the I. W. W. will have helped the capitalists to drag that tone down to the level from which the Russian revolutionists are now seeking to raise their country.

This disposes of the only remotely relevant argument made by our correspondents. There are, nevertheless two others that should not be ignored, however irrelevant.

Our correspondents say: "We can not understand how comrade De Leon jumps at the conclusion that the I. W. W. agitation—which he terms 'agitation for force only'—has to degenerate into conspiracy." The answer to this is: Either our correspondents claim that De Leon has said that "the present I. W. W. agitation has to degenerate into conspiracy," if that is their meaning then they will have a hard time to prove that De Leon made any such statement. The I. W. W. is what the I. W. W. is to-day, not what our friends, who sign the letter published above, seek to turn it into. They are not yet so far. If, however, our correspondents merely made a slip in their statement, and what they meant to say is that De Leon holds that by removing the political clause from the preamble of the I. W. W. AND RETAINING THE "TAKE AND HOLD" CLAUSE, then the I. W. W. would have to degenerate into conspiracy—if that was their meaning then they have quoted De Leon correctly. A simple denial of this conclusion does not refute a conclusion drawn from the irrefutable historic experience from which the conclusion flows.

At this point a serious illusion seems to reveal itself as taking possession of the minds of our esteemed contributors. They seem to believe that the preaching of the "industrial" form of organization would be sufficient to drill a revolutionary economic organization. We would like to hasten to dispel the illusion by suggesting to them the following principles:

1. The exclusion of the political clause from the I. W. W., leaving the "take and hold" clause extant, would drive the agitation into the narrow quarters of a conspiracy, with all the evil results thereof.

2. The exclusion of both the political clause and the "take and hold" clause, leaving extant only the "industrial" form of organization, would fatally steer the I. W. W. into the quagmire of the Gompers-Mitchell A. F. of L.

The other of the two irrelevant arguments that should be taken up is the one contained in the passage: "So obvious is this fact [the harmfulness of the ballot agitation] that, at the last convention of the I. W. W., we have witnessed comrade De Leon make a motion to the effect that no organizer of any political party should be employed as organizer for the I. W. W."—De Leon is correctly quoted there; the purport of his motion is, however, misinterpreted. So far from his motion being an evidence of the harmfulness of the political agitation, it is an evidence of his position that such agitation is essential to success. Considering such agitation essential to success, he is earnestly bent upon the bringing together of a revolutionary economic organization powerful enough to reflect its own political party, that is, its own forerunner that may afford a chance to a peaceful solution. Consequently, recognizing the fact that there are to-day in this country two rival and hostile political parties, both flying the colors of Socialism, it should be obvious that organizers of either of the two parties, acting simultaneously as I. W. W. organizers, could not choose but hamper, rather than promote the growth of the I. W. W.—ED. THE PEOPLE.]

I. W. W. CIGARS
H. D. DEUTSCH, Mfr.
121 EAST 113TH STREET,
NEW YORK.
MAIL ORDERS FILLED.

The People is a good broom to brush the cobwebs from the minds of the workers. Buy a copy and pass it around.

TWO LETTERS

Correspondence Between the Independent Labor Party of the Transvaal, and the American S. L. P.

I.
INDEPENDENT LABOUR PARTY,
Transvaal.

Johannesburg,
Transvaal,
Sept. 30th, 1906.
To our fellow workers in Great Britain, Australia, America and other parts of the world:—
Comrades,

The Independent Labour Party and workers of the Labour Movement in the Transvaal, are on the eve of one of the greatest battles between capital and labour ever fought in any part of the world. With a population of less than 200,000 white adults, divided by nationality, we have to face capital united in every possible way to serve its own interests. The gold mining industry here represents capital to the extent of over £200,000,000. There is still a larger vested interest in land. It has been authoritatively stated, that some seventeen men own three-quarters of the whole of the area of the Transvaal. They are further backed up by one of the largest amalgamations of Capital extant, with its headquarters upon the Continent of Europe.

This body of Capitalists have the control of the entire South African Press, and dominate the Governments of adjoining Colonies, Chambers of Commerce and Trade, and every Legislative, Municipal, and Administrative body throughout the Country, besides subjecting to their own interests by indirect ways, the wishes and freedom of Merchants and the middle classes.

Up to the present time the Independent Labour Party and Trades Unions have escaped their machinations. This has not been accomplished without a bitter struggle, or without leaving many a former comrade in the movement, behind, on the way, a victim to the snares of bribery, corruption or oppression. We also submit that, the importation of Chinese Labour into this country, had for one of its objects the crushing of the Labour Movement in its inception, by supplanting the white workers by a cheap, servile, non-voting class of labour.

Since the formation of the Independent Labour Party here, our whole efforts have been concentrated on propaganda and organizing work. This has used up every penny of our income, and we are practically penniless at the present time. We have but three short months before our First Elections to raise funds for Labour Candidates.

Our Trades Unions have no accumulated funds, as they are all of recent formation. As a consequence of the terrible state of depression existing throughout South Africa, these Trades Unions, however willing, are totally unable to subscribe for the purpose we desire. Their funds and members have been taxed to the utmost degree, to meet the necessities of their unemployed members. It is our opinion that this depression has been purposely manufactured, to drive out of the country men who would certainly not support a party which for three and a half years used the legislative and administrative machine solely to cheapen working costs on the mines to the detriment of every labour interest.

In making this appeal to you for funds to assist in returning Labour Representatives to our First Parliament we would point out that the Independent Labour Party here is thoroughly representative of all sections of labour. It numbers among its members all men who have stood foremost in the Labour Cause for a number of years, and also the Executive Members of Trades Unions. PUBLIC OPINION is entirely in its favour, and it is rapidly gaining the ENTIRE CONFIDENCE OF THE PEOPLE.

It is the hope of the Party, to gain sufficient Seats to dominate the future Government of the Country.

The return of 20 candidates will probably be thus rendered necessary. We estimate that therefore some 35 seats will have to be contested. We have plenty of able men, but no money, and in a country like this where the dominance of wealth is so great, we cannot in our present circumstances expect to contest even one seat successfully. Any of your members who know the Transvaal, we feel sure will verify this.

The coming Parliament is to be elected for five years. We submit that unless successful in returning our Candidates, the Chinese Importation Ordinance will be renewed in a still worse form, viz.:—That the Chinaman WILL BE PERMITTED A FULL RIGHT TO PERFORM SKILLED WORK, which the present Ordinance, if carried out properly would deprive them from doing. This will mean driving out of this country thousands of skilled workmen now

here, and their entering into competition in the already overstocked Labour Markets elsewhere. We further feel sure that the coming elections will settle the question once and for all, of South Africa becoming a white Settlers' Country.

We therefore urgently appeal to all Socialist and Labour bodies for their immediate assistance. As the Elections are but three months off, immediate action is necessary.

Should at any time we receive appeals of this nature from your organizations we feel sure it will meet with the ready response which we hope this appeal will receive.

All monies should be forwarded to the Bank of Africa (Johannesburg Branch), to the credit of the Independent Labour Party, to be drawn upon by the following Trustees at a Conference held to-day.

P. Whiteside, J. P., Town Councillor and Gen. Sec. S. A. Engine Drivers' and Firemen's Association.

T. J. Kneebone, J. P., Organizing Secretary, Amalgamated Society of Engineers (South Africa).

And John Reid, J. P., Secretary, Pretoria Trades Council.

The foregoing appeal was ordered to be sent to all Socialist and Labour bodies throughout the world, by a Conference representing the whole of the branches of the Independent Labour Party of S. Africa, this 30th day of September, 1906.

Signed
T. Bain (Chairman.)
H. W. Sampson.
John Reid.
J. P. Anderson.
M. Lucas.
J. Campbell.
A. Ross.
A. Crawford.

II.
Executive Committee,
Independent Labor Party,
The Transvaal, South Africa,
Gentlemen,

In my letter to you dated Nov. 8th, I promised to submit your communication of Sept. 30th to N. E. C. sub-Committee of our Party. This I did at the regular session of that body held Nov. 16th. Pursuant to its instructions, I must inform your committee that we find it impossible to assist your Party in the way you request. We have come to this conclusion, because, from your statement, we are led to believe that the Independent Labor Party of the Transvaal is not a revolutionary party. We hold that the condition of the working class can be permanently improved only by complete emancipation from slavery. A bona-fide party of the working class, therefore, should have for its purpose the seizure, not only by capitalist government, but what is of vastly more importance, the confiscation of capitalist property. In America we have found that all political and economic movements which look only to the reform of capitalist society, always end, when in power, by disgracefully compromising, or by brazenly selling out the interests of the working class. We have learned through bitter experience, that, so long as the government protects individuals in the possession of private property in the means of labor, it matters not at all whether it is administered by capitalists or by individuals who were sometime workmen. If you would give to the revolutionary socialists of the world a guarantee that, in case you are successful in the coming election, you would banish all capitalists from the Transvaal, instead of the doubly enslaved Chinese workmen, I am sure that the response would be as enthusiastic as so glorious a purpose would justify.

With assurances that we have faith in your good intentions, and venturing the hope that your movement in South Africa may become revolutionary in method and purpose, I remain,

Yours for the emancipation of the working class,
Frank Bohn.
National Secretary Socialist Labor Party, U. S. A.

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED
STATES:
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In 1892 21,157
In 1900 36,504
In 1904 34,191
In 1908 34,172

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History will forgive you everything:
the centuries of oppression, the mil-
lions you have starved to death, the
other millions you have sent to be
butchered on the battlefield; every-
thing but this—that you have driven
us who mean well with our fatherland
to seek recourse in murder.

GREGORY GUERCHOUNI.
Address to Judges
in Russia who con-
demned him to death.

DE QUINCEY CORROBORATED.
The "Electrical World" of last De-
cember 25th quotes approvingly pas-
sages from an address delivered in the
course of the previous week before the
Unity Club of Montclair, N. J., by A.
H. Grant on the "Failure of socialistic
methods in city government."

Mr. Grant argues that, "IN SPITE
OF THE DENIAL OF THOROUGH-
GOING SOCIALISTS, the ownership
and operation by cities of traction, tele-
phone, gas, electric light and water
works IS SOCIALISTIC, IN THAT IT
SUBSTITUTES COLLECTIVISM for
private enterprise." Proceeding from
these premises, the gentleman then
demonstrates the numberless and un-
questioned, as they are unquestioned,
evils of such ownership and operation,
whereupon he reaches the conclusion,
obviously implied, that Socialism must
be rejected. De Quincey, writing in the
early part of last century, neatly over-
threw the pretensions of the economists
to the privilege of a priesthood, whose
occult science was inaccessible to the
masses, by observing that nine-tenths
of their reasoning needed no economic
knowledge to handle, but could be
triturated by anyone possessed of ele-
mental knowledge in logic. Had Mr.
Grant lived in time to be embraced by
De Quincey's genius, the gentleman
would have been included in the cat-
egory of the economists whom a little
sound thinking knocks out.

Mr. Grant's reasoning in condensed
form amounts to this: "Socialists deny
that municipal ownership is collectiv-
ism or Socialism; they are wrong;
municipal ownership is collectivism;
municipal ownership is bad for these
and these and these reasons; therefore
Socialism is rejectable." Upon that
system of logic the following reasoning
would be unshakable: "Prohibitionists
deny that drunkenness is prohibition-
ism; they are wrong; drunkenness is
prohibitionism; drunkenness is bad for
these and these and these reasons;
therefore Prohibitionism produces all
these bad results and is rejectable." Or
the following reasoning: "Mr. Grant
denies that he is an idiot; he is wrong;
he is an idiot; idiocy is bad for these
and these and these reasons; therefore
Mr. Grant should be put into a lunatic
asylum." The defective reasoning in
these two illustrations is obvious. The
same defective reasoning taints Mr.
Grant's reasoning. The defect, one
common to what Marx has well called
the vulgarity of bourgeois reasoning
lies in taking for granted the very
thing at issue, and expending energy
upon proving what is not denied. So-
cialism does not deny, on the contrary
it has led the way in proving, the evil
results of "municipal ownership." What
Socialism does deny is that "municipal
ownership" is collectivism. Instead of
piling unnecessary proof upon proof of
the mischief of "municipal ownership,"
Mr. Grant, his object being to discredit
Socialism or collectivism, should have
proved, not merely asserted, as he does,
that "municipal ownership" is collec-
tivism.

Municipal ownership is not collec-
tivism. So far from its being collec-
tivism it implies a denial of funda-
mental principles of collectivism.
Municipal ownership is a phase of cap-
italism. The external form seems So-
cialistic; the internal essence is thor-
oughly paced capitalism. Municipal-
ism and capitalist private ownership have
this vital point in common—they both
rest upon class rule, the rule of a prop-
erty-holding class over a property-less
class that is bought in the labor-mar-
ket like any other chattel. Collectivism
rejects the class system of society; col-
lectivism overthrows the system by de-
stroying its foundation. Where the
class system exists the ruling class is

intent on profits only, which means
plunder of the working class, and
cheating all around; where collectivism
is in force production for use and not
for sale is the norm; "profits" vanish;
cheating is no more.

Where economic opportunities are
unequal, class rule reigns; where class
rule reigns, the ruling class owns gov-
ernment; where the ruling class runs
government, it (the ruling class), and
not the collectivity, owns whatever the
government owns. Municipal owner-
ship means, under capitalism, owner-
ship, concentrated ownership, by the
capitalist class. He who piles up proof
of the worthlessness of "municipal
ownership" simply helps the Socialist
to prove the utter worthlessness of
capitalism, the fact that it is a sys-
tem sooner ended than mended.

A GREAT THOUGHT TESTED.
Mrs. Potter Palmer, who performed
the office of hostess to the late gather-
ing of the Civic Federation in Chicago,
is delighted. Besides being de-lighted
the lady has suddenly developed an
amount of socio-economic penetration
that verges on genius, if it is not ac-
tually genius. She says, as the result
of her observations at the gathering:
"If one side only knew the other as it
should, there would be less friction."
No generalization on social questions,
made by either Marx or Engels excels
Mrs. Potter Palmer's.

Just consider:
"Friction" is a state of things that
arises between bodies of men that
think they can pull together, and try
the feat.

In order successfully to pull together
the two bodies must have a common
starting point and a common goal.

Suppose "one side," say the Working
Class, knew the other, the Capitalist
Class, as it should. What would Labor
ascertain? The first thing it would as-
certain would be that all that the Cap-
italist Class has is wealth produced by,
but sponged from the Working Class.
The second thing that it would ascer-
tain is that there could be no Capitalist
Class unless there was a class that in
some one of a score of ways had been
stripped of the necessities for inde-
pendent production. The third thing
that it would ascertain is that the
ratio of fat on the ribs of the Cap-
italist Class is in inverse relation to the
fat on the ribs of the Working Class.
The fourth thing that it would ascer-
tain is that for there to be one Mrs. Pot-
ter Palmer, prancing in silks and
satins, there must be at least 1,000
women of the Working Class shivering
in calico. Having ascertained these
various facts, that "one side" would
"know the other as it should," and so
knowing it would realize that its sal-
vation involves the damnation of the
other, the Capitalist Class.

Now suppose the "other side," say
the Capitalist Class, knew the other,
the Working Class, as it should. What
would Capital ascertain? The first
thing it would ascertain would be that,
in order to live the "other side" has
to work for it. The second thing that
Capital would ascertain would be that,
in order to live still better, the "other
side" has to work for it still harder.
The third thing that Capital would
ascertain would be that, in order to live
better still, the "other side" has to work
for it harder and harder still. Having
ascertained these various facts that
"one side," Capital, would "know the
other as it should," and so knowing it
would realize that its safety and sal-
vation involves the degradation and dam-
nation of the Working Class.

Each side having reached the point
where it "knew the other as it should"
the two would "tear away." There
might be a clash. Probably there would
be, but only for an instant. Friction,
never.

The test of great thoughts is their
obviousness, once stated. Mrs. Potter
Palmer's thought stands the test tri-
umphantly.

TRANSVAAL SOCIALISM.
Under the title "Two Letters" a cor-
respondence will be found elsewhere in
this issue between the Independent La-
bor Party of the Transvaal and the
Socialist Labor Party of the United
States. In response to a request from
the former for funds towards its cam-
paign, one of the main purposes of
which is the exclusion of Chinese la-
bor, the latter declines to render aid
towards an agitation so anti-Marxian
as to tend, instead of uniting the pro-
letariat of all countries, to play into
the capitalist's hand of rupturing the
world-wide Nation of the Proletariat
by race distinctions.

The S. L. P. is well aware of the ex-
istence of that frame of mind that
causes some folks to deny unto others
the capacity to utter themselves on
any general principle because of lack
of intimate knowledge with some de-
tail. In Congress, just now, Senator
Tillman of South Carolina, has been
disputing the fitness of Northern Sen-
ators to discuss the question of negro
lynching, seeing those Senators do not
live in States having a majority of
negroes, and have not, like himself,

"lived fifty-nine years among negroes."
And so there will presumably be folks
in the Transvaal who may deny the fit-
ness of the American Socialist Labor
Party to express itself upon the Chi-
nese Question in the Transvaal, seeing
that, neither the Party as a body, nor
any of its members has resided long
enough in the Transvaal to be ac-
quainted with the unspeakable horrors
that Chinese labor has introduced
there. As in the case of Senator Till-
man and negro lynching, the attitude
of the Transvaal anti-Chinese labor
men would neither hold water, nor bear
criticism. The S. L. P. of America is
fully aware of the revolting, the un-
printable practices that have been
brought home to the Chinese barracks
in the Transvaal. The columns of
"Reynolds Newspaper" on the subject
are no secret here, nor is the S. L. P.
unaware of the stenchful explosion that
these revelations produced in Parlia-
ment. At the same time, such inci-
dents cannot blur certain general prin-
ciples, any more than isolated cases
of negro bestiality in South Carolina
can repeal the principle that lynching
is mob-law, more baneful a practice to
society than any individual negro
crime.

Behind the mask of indignation at
isolated instances of negro bestiality,
there hides the Southern manufactur-
er's despot-hatred of Labor, whom the
white exploiter would cow, terrorize
and keep in abject submission for his
private purposes. So likewise behind
the indignation at the revolting prac-
tices discovered in the Chinese camps
of the Transvaal, there lurks, con-
sciously or unconsciously, the bour-
geois-instilled spirit of competition be-
tween race and race, creed and creed,
nationality and nationality—man and
man.

With a loud howl did the Amsterdam
International Congress throw out the
proposition presented mainly by So-
cialist party delegates from America,
looking to the establishment of differ-
ences in races. That "backward races"
resolution was not even allowed to
come to a vote at Amsterdam; its
sponsors were shamed into withdraw-
ing it; and the delegation of the So-
cialist Labor Party acted as a unit in
joining to put the seal of condemnation
upon so inhumanly stupid and stupidly
inhuman a proposition. The answer
of the S. L. P. of America to the In-
dependent Labour Party of the Trans-
vaal is in line with the action
taken by the International Con-
gress of Amsterdam, which the S. L. P.
is proud to have contributed in em-
phasizing through its delegation.

ADDITIONAL "STATE'S EVIDENCE"
Prof. Joseph French Johnson, Dean
of the New York University School of
Commerce, has an article in the New
York "Herald" of the 2d instant en-
titled "A Peep at 'Prosperity's' Seamy
Side." It will be noticed that Pros-
perity in the said article appears in

quotation marks. Well it may.

Prof. Johnson describes the appli-
ances and means to boot of what is
termed "Prosperity." Hard is the de-
scription to distinguish from a de-
scription of the course of the events
around a faro table during the rush
season. The Professor's conclusions
are couched in these words:

"I may be pessimistic, but I think the
social and moral effect of our record-
breaking prosperity is bad, and I doubt
if we should pray for its long continu-
ance without the chastening stroke of a
panic."

The sentiment is fully implied in the
title of the article itself. Prosperity in
quotation marks, with a "seamy side"
besides, can not be what it is cracked
up for. Moreover the "Prosperity" that
requires the "chastening stroke of a
panic" must be essential adversity.
Prof. Johnson's views tally closely with
those of ex-Treasurers Shaw, who ex-
pressed his apprehensions on the score
of "our prosperity."

Prof. Johnson's article has the merit
of being in line with the truths that are
now escaping in rapid succession from
the lips of the capitalist class—truths
that Socialism has been foretelling and
foreproving these many years: Capital-
ist Prosperity spells national, popular
adversity, decline and ruin.

Prosperity is a blessing. Blessings
proceed from sound sources. That
which has its roots in a faro-table
system may at times look like prosper-
ity. The proof of the pudding again
lies in the eating. That which looks
like prosperity is so or not so if its
continuance or discontinuance contin-
ues well-being or prevents it; if, how-
ever, that which seems to be prosperity
has a "seamy side," a side unknown to
blessings, the seamy side is bound to
wear into view, leaving in the end
nothing but that side. The admission
that nothing but "the chastening stroke
of a panic" can redeem "our prosper-
ity" involves a contradiction that gives
the lie to the claim that what the na-
tion has been enjoying is prosperity.

There is no popular prosperity pos-
sible under a social system which
places the people's welfare in the hands
of faro-bankers. Capitalism is such a
system. The "Prosperity" it ushers in
is one whose trail is marked by the
moans of the working class, and which
leads direct to the "chastening strokes"
of panics, that is, to periods of intens-
ified and multiplied popular distress.

Whether the case is put as ex-Sec-
retary Shaw did; or whether it is put
as the New York "Sun" did when it
admitted the existence to-day of greater
discontent and uneasiness than be-
fore the firing on Fort Sumter, despite
"our unparalleled prosperity"; or
whether it is put as did the New York
"Evening Post" when it recently drop-
ped "Laissez-Faire" as a principle of
conservatism; or whether it is put as
Prof. Johnson now does, it all comes
down to the same—the paths of Cap-
italism lead but to disaster.

SYSTEM AND THE PRESS

FORMER COUNTS WITH THE LATTER—A SECTION THAT MAKES NO
BOASTS, BUT WILL LET ITS RECORD TALK.

For the week ending January 19th,
we received 139 subs to the Weekly
People, and 23 mail subs to the Daily
People, a total of 162, a slump of 78
compared with the previous week.
These constant fluctuations from week
to week indicate the need of system in
the getting of subs. Under present
methods individuals make spurts, and
when there are no spurts a slump
follows. Now, then, we would not be
understood as discouraging those who
do make a spurt. Far from it. We
would increase their number if we
could. But, in order to keep an even
and steady progress we need an organ-
ized, systemized gathering of subs.
Then when an individual comrade gets
a vacation or lay-off, and puts in some
good clicks for the Weekly People so
much is a gain.

Section Cincinnati, Ohio, appreciat-
ing the need of systematic work, in
order to produce good results, has
elected a committee of ten to circulate
the Party Press. The result of their
first week's work is 9 subs., and they
hope to do better than that. One man,
perhaps, could get 9 subs in a week,
but he could not keep it up week after
week while a committee of ten, with-
out any unusual exertion by any in-
dividual, should be able to keep it up
indefinitely. Section Cincinnati makes
no boasts nor promises and we take it
that the record of what they accom-
plish is to speak for them.

The Sections should take up for con-
sideration the working out of a sys-
tematic plan of canvassing for subs.
Each Section knows best its own re-
sources and the possibilities before it.
Get your work down to a system,
meanwhile you minute men who go out
on your own hook and capture new
readers keep at it for we certainly need
you.

The roll of honor for the week: J.

Underdown, Toronto, Ont., 10; Press
Committee, Cincinnati, O., 9; A. H. De
Mendoza, Chicago, 7; O. Georges, San
Antonio, Tex., 6; Geo. J. Heans, Ports-
mouth, Va., 6; O. Schwartzgel, Kan-
sas City, Mo., 5.

Prepaid cards sold: 30-32nd A. D.
A. D., N. Y., \$4.00; G. G. Smith, Law-
rence, Mass., \$5.00; S. L. Brooks, Buf-
falo, N. Y., \$5.00.

Before moving we wish to replenish
Labor News stock as much as possible,
for the reason that it will be some little
time during and after moving before
work can be done in the new place.
We have under way a new edition of
Woman Under Socialism, also Value,
Price and Profit. We have several
other books to get out, among them a
Sue story, and Ebert's American In-
dustrial Revolution. All of this means
a big cash outlay which you can help
us meet in various ways. Pay up your
account, should you owe anything here,
send on cash in advance orders for
Woman Under Socialism. Do whatever
you can to lend a hand here.

XMAS FUND BOX.
A. Anderson, Port Angeles, Wn., \$ 2.00
J. Scheurer, New York City, 1.00
G. Hunt, Vallejo, Cal. 1.00
W. S. Vallejo, Cal. 1.00
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E. Lefferts, La Mesa, Cal. 25
E. Williams, Vallejo, Cal. 1.00
A. Wills, Barstow, Cal. 3.00
K. Miller, Dagge, Cal. 2.00

Previously acknowledged.... 162.30

Total \$185.80

CLASH OF BOURGEOIS
THOUGHT

Singularly symbolic of the at once
alien and bourgeois essence of the So-
cialist party is a certain motion, now
before that party for a referendum,
together with the argument against the
motion.

The motion proceeds from Ferdinand
Ufert, a national committee member
from the State of New Jersey. It con-
sists of five whereases summing up the
arbitrary action of President Roosevelt
in the matter of the dishonorable dis-
charge of the colored troops of the
Twenty-fifth regiment; pointing out
the fact that the innocent in this in-
stance are made to suffer with the
guilty; detailing the evil consequences
of the discharge to the men in that it
"would forever debar them from re-
entry to service or to secure any man-
ner of employment under the govern-
ment"; and holding up to scorn the
"great injustice thereby done to mem-
bers of our class." The motion cul-
minates in a resolution denouncing the
action of the President on the ground
that the Socialist party is in accord
with the International Organization
that "justice be meted out to all re-
gardless of color, creed or condition."

Language like this would be in place
in Germany. There, indeed, soldiers
may be referred to by Socialists as
"members of our class." In Germany
workingmen are taken, against their
will, into the Army, and kept there for
a term of at least three years, forced
to do military service. In Germany the
treatment bestowed upon soldiers, their
housing, their future prospects—all
this is just matter for Socialist soli-
citude. Not the bourgeois misty sense of
"justice," but the concrete material in-
terests of the "members of our class"
concerns the German Socialists and
frequently constitute the theme of their
just denunciation of the government's
treatment of soldiers. But here in
America! Here where enlistment is
voluntary, here where the soldier
chooses his avocation, and that avoca-
tion the avocation of manslaughter—to
here refer to soldiers as "members of
our class," and to demand "justice" for
them in the name of Socialism, that
is the limit of the grotesque. The act
is explainable only by the theory that
the Socialist who indulges in it has his
mind so steeped in German practices
that he is not even capable to dis-
cern the sense of such act in Germany,
hence the nonsense of the same in
America.

But not yet is the picture complete.
No organization can absolutely guar-
antee the soundness of each member.
There may be some exceptional mem-
ber. The errors of such are not sym-
bolic of the organization itself. In
this instance, however, the national
committee member of New Jersey does
not stand as the exception that proves
the rule, in the Socialist party. The
national committee member from Ala-
bama, La Rue, hastens to supplement
his New Jersey compeer and thereby
to perfect the picture. The Alabama
national committee member objects to
the motion of the New Jersey national
committee member—upon what ground
in particular? The burden of his ar-
gument is that the New Jersey propo-
sition "injects the Negro question into
the Socialist party"; and he says: "I
think there is no question that the
President's action has the entire ap-
proval of the Southern Socialists, and
it must be admitted in all fairness that
we know the Negro character better
than do our northern and western com-
rades. Southern Socialists are already
sufficiently criticized because we de-
mand for the Negro economic justice.
The adoption of this resolution by this
body would be seized upon by every
capitalist paper in the South, with the
inevitable result of handicapping and
retarding the Southern branch [where
Negro labor predominates] of the So-
cialist movement for a good while to
come."

The picture is complete—obverse
and reverse; all the completer seeing
there are no other argumentators. It
is the picture of the clash of bourgeois
thought. Abstract "Justice," on the one
hand, so abstract as to be even import-
ed from a foreign atmosphere; on the
other hand, race prejudice, or what is
even worse, cowardice towards race
prejudice, even though the race con-
sists mainly of proletarians. If the
motion is carried, it is carried to the
tune that voluntary soldiers are "mem-
bers of our class"; if the motion is lost,
it is lost to the tune that the white
capitalists' prejudice against the
Negro, the bulk of the Southern prole-
tariat, should not be assailed. In either
case, lost or won, the incident of the
motion illustrates the bourgeois es-
sence of the S. P. and the clash of
bourgeois thought in the party's camp.
No wonder conviction spreads and
strikes root that such a party is but a
clown performance of Socialism in
America.

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Climbs Up Over \$1,100 Mark, with
More to Hear from.

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F. F. Brinkman, 25c.; J. Stev-

(Continued on page five)



UNCLE SAM AND BROTHER
JONATHAN.

BROTHER JONATHAN—Do you
know that I have at last found a flaw
in Socialist Reasoning?

UNCLE SAM—Let her rip; what is it?
B. J.—Socialists want to abolish capi-
tal, isn't it?

U. S.—(hesitatingly)—Well?

B. J.—Now, then without capital we
would relapse into the barbarism of
universal poverty. We would be de-
prived of many an advantage we now enjoy.
To destroy capital were to destroy a
lever of civilization, and that, you
know, is an impossible task. Civiliza-
tion will not back; it will move forward
only—

U. S. (applauding enthusiastically)—
Well said!

B. J.—Wasn't I right? Is not that a
fatal flaw in Socialism? I am glad to
see you applaud me; it does not fre-
quently happen.

U. S.—I applauded your last senti-
ments: "Civilization will not move back-
wards; its course is forward only." But
the premises you start from are all
wrong.

B. J.—Wrong!
U. S.—Yes. By the way, how did you
like those glasses of applejack we had
the other day?

B. J.—(smacking his lips)—Prime
they were, and no mistake.

U. S.—Now, then suppose some man
were to say to you: "He who takes
applejack dies simultaneously under
painful convulsions and great agony!"
B. J.—I would tell him he was talking
through his hat.

U. S.—And suppose he were to pro-
ceed to take out of his pocket a bottle
labelled "Applejack," were to give that
to a dog, and the dog were forthwith to
kick and howl himself out of life?

B. J.—I would say the bottle's label
was a fraud; it might bear the label
of "applejack," but probably it contained
strychnine.

U. S.—Suppose, now, that man were
to say, "I call this 'applejack.'"

B. J.—I would say to him that he was
free to call it what he liked, but I call
it strychnine, and that to give the name
of applejack to a thing known as strychnine
was a quibble and a fraud.

U. S.—You have just now accurately
described the man who will give the
name of "capital" to what is no more
capital than strychnine is applejack.
B. J. (looks up with surprise.)

U. S.—It is not capital that consti-
tutes the lever of civilization you speak
of; it is the concentrated and perfected
machinery of production, whereby co-
operative work becomes possible, and the
quantity of wealth yielded by labor is
plentiful enough to afford comfort to all
without arduous toil.

B. J.—Isn't that capital?

U. S.—No, sir. That becomes capital
only when it is owned by private indi-
viduals. Owned by private individuals
and operated for their private profit, the
concentrated machinery of production
becomes "capital," and then, so far from
being a lever of civilization and a source
of human welfare, it becomes a lever
of barbarism and a source of human
misery. It strips concentrated machinery
and production and co-operative work of
all the good that is in them; it robs
them of the civilizing and beneficent
powers; it promotes on the one end of
the social ladder popular poverty, such
as was never before known in the world's
history, and on the other

CORRESPONDENCE

CORRESPONDENTS WHO PREFER TO APPEAR IN PRINT UNDER AN ASSUMED NAME WILL ATTACH SUCH NAME TO THEIR COMMUNICATIONS, BESIDES THEIR OWN SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS. NONE OTHER WILL BE RECOGNIZED.

WHY SIMONTON LEFT THE S. P.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I enclose a letter from Clinton Simonton, former Socialist party organizer of Arkansas, giving his reasons for resigning from that body. There will be more to follow him.

G. H. F.

Mystic, Iowa, January 8.

[Enclosure]

Pine Bluff, Ark., Jan. 3, '07.

Dear George:—

Since penning you the few lines a day or two ago, I think, perhaps, you will like to hear the details of why we have taken this position. You remember I wrote you some time ago, regarding the stand we took in the last state convention, on a revolutionary platform. After more fully studying into the matter, I was struck with the inconsistency at attempting to maintain this position as a member of the Socialist party, and especially, as state organizer. I spoke to our State committee of the falsity, and they laughed at my "scruples." As time developed conditions which prove clearly enough that the S. P. is not anything more than a reform party, I could stand no more of their damned bourgeois tactics, and called a meeting of Pine Bluff to discuss our position and at the close withdrew from the party; Dr. Le Fevre, of whom I wrote you, taking the stand against me on the ground that we can be revolutionists while endorsing and supporting a non-revolutionary party. He is a Natal' com. man.

In the meantime, Pete Winter, State com. man, was studying over the matter, and became convinced, as I previously had been, of the absurdity of calling ourselves revolutionists, and at the same time giving the lie to our words by acting with a party which repudiates the only truly revolutionary movement in America—the I. W. W. (backed by the S. L. P.). At last Sunday's local meeting Pete resigned and withdrew from the party also. It has created consternation in the camp, and everybody is wondering where they are at. I was booked three months ahead when I resigned and am looking for a thorough cussing from my friend, Dan Hogan, State Sec'y.

I am done with the S. P. I would as well take position with the Democratic party and be true to the working class, as remain a member of the S. P., by far the larger part of whose membership is controlled by millionaires, bankers, lawyers, and a few intellectuals, whose policies, as pursued by different states, under state autonomy, would put a liberal democrat to shame. I might cite Okla., Wis., Minn., Mass., Calif., etc.

The Socialist party has forsaken the class struggle and can no longer claim to be the party of working class interests. Controlled by a dying middle class, steeped and dyed in middle class interests, whose hope is to preserve their own middle class position, they are advocating a form of state Socialism, similar to that adopted in Germany by Bismarck, in order to head off the revolutionary movement of the proletariat. This seems to me to be the trend of the S. P. whose political policies are but a reflex of the decaying capitalistic minded and directed A. F. of L. upon the economic field. This form of Socialism will only enhance the position of a few sycophants and grafters in our party to positions which will elevate them to wealth and authority, while the working class enslavement will be more intense than ever before. I shall fight them.

The unconditional surrender of the capitalist class is the only position I maintain.—The only policy I would embody in a platform.

The signs of decay are manifest in the Socialist party. The enthusiasm which characterized it a few years ago when its foremost were, in their first born hopes and aspirations uncontaminated by bourgeois influence and capitalist respectability is dead; because that party has forsaken the mighty purpose for which they organized, i. e., the emancipation of the working class from wage slavery. It has struck its own death-knell, and in order to represent the proletarian interests, the Socialist party as at present organized must be destroyed. It will then be born again upon a purely materialistic conception of history and will be the child politically of the economic solidarity of the workers in Industrial Unionism.

I am not disheartened at all. This internal war of intellect, but shows the beauty and grandeur of the sleeping giant, labor, becoming conscious of his power and strength, and donning the accoutrements of uncompromising war and whose deadliest weapon will reach the very heart of capitalism when wielded in class solidarity upon the economic battlefield. The tools of production and distribution is the weapon. As a proletarian

SCIENCE, our position upon the hill of time is as secure as mathematical calculation. As a Science the proletarian movement challenges gods, devils, demons and angels to dispute the impregnable fortress of truth upon which Charles Darwin founded Evolution as a Science, and Karl Marx over the midnight oil with Frederick Engels, in proletarian poverty, applied it to political economy and created an undying light along the shores of time.

A beacon light to the wage-slave as he groans beneath the master's lash, the Socialist movement must be kept strictly within the grasp of the workers. Its present bourgeois attitude is the result of elevating a few to positions of authority within the movement because of superior mental qualities perhaps, or because of financial influence as a Paterson, and there unconsciously they are creating a new set of masters upon the political field who, when the time is ripe will traffic with the masters upon the economic field for elevation into that class. The price to be paid for this elevation is the liberty of the working class. None can free them but themselves and their hero-worship—this individualism must be rooted out, and the workers assume the responsibility of their own emancipation.

George, I am coming home at the earliest opportunity. Lack of finance deters me at present. I long to see you and lay plans for future work. It will doubtless be necessary for me to become a wage-slave for a time, and doubtless it would do me good. Our speakers attain to such a degree of capitalist respectability that it might be well if all of them were kept in harness of wage slaves. Before the battle is really fought men will be heard in overalls in secret halls and upon the streets, not in broad cloth suits and opera houses applauded and bouqueted by the bourgeoisie.

I am out in the country with comrade Brinkley and family—true and tried revolutionists, and trying to get adjusted to the labor which awaits me. I hope to bring Henry with me when I come. I have no fear of work. It is the only thing which puts a conscious slave on revolutionary ground and it matters but little where the fight is fought only as locations affect physical health.

If Hot Springs starts a lecture Lyceum, it will begin to operate about the middle of this month, and they have selected me to direct it. I am daily looking for a letter. Should it not materialize, don't be surprised should a long-lean-hungry-looking tramp turn up some cold morning at the back-door of your Mystic home.

Yours for the Revolution,
Clinton Simonton.
P. S.—Send this letter to The People if you wish. C. S.

A WORTHY COMPANION.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—With this I send 75 cents for three six months subs to the Weekly People. I am a lone S. L. P. man down here, but not lonely so long as I have The People to read. Not only does The People edify me but it gives me something to talk about to others.

W. T. C.

Fulton, Ky., January 16.

DOINGS OF CINCINNATI SOCIALIST WOMEN.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—No doubt our comrades throughout the country are interested in the progress of The Women's Socialist Club of Cincinnati. On January 13 a meeting was held and the organization was completed with Katie Eisenberg as organizer and Fannie Chernin as secretary.

The aim of the club is to educate the women of Cincinnati and for this purpose a series of lectures has been arranged. On the 23rd of January Comrade Swing will speak on "The Woman's Question" and Katie Eisenberg on "Woman's Place in the Labor Movement." Every lecture will be followed by a musical program.

The Women's Socialist Club will meet hereafter every Wednesday evening at I. W. W. Hall, corner Twelfth and Jackson streets.

Readers of The People, if you happen to be men, don't usurp the exclusive right of aiding the Socialist movement. Give your wives and daughters an opportunity to attend our meetings and lectures at the time and place indicated above.

Fannie Chernin, Secretary,
The Women's Socialist Club,
Cincinnati, O., Jan. 13.

LESSONS FOR THE FUTURE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—While militants should oppose all strikes

which have a tendency to hysterical action, yet there are times when the revolutionary impulse should have full swing. The Schenectady strike was a blow aimed full in the face of capitalism and the impact sent a tremor through the whole capitalist body. A dispatch sent to the Indianapolis News on Dec. 11th headed "The A. F. of L. to the Rescue" and enclosed proves that the blow was felt.

The handful of I. W. W. men in Schenectady, probably did not realize the full effect of the strike, very likely did not believe they were strong enough to jar the system, but the result speaks for itself.

The strike produced a revelation. It laid bare the fact, that the capitalist class knows the I. W. W., and it proved the collusion of the "pure and simple" leaders with the capitalist class. It proved the solidarity of the workers in the I. W. W. and the blind following of leaders in the A. F. of L.

It was not a defeat. It was a solid victory. Now, if the Schenectady workers will strike just as solidly at the ballot-box at the next election there will be another jar at the system felt through its entire length and breadth.

Theo. Bernine.

[Enclosure]

A. F. OF L. TO THE RESCUE.
Reported It Has Offered to Fill Strikers' Places in Schenectady.

Schenectady, N. Y., December 11.—The 2,500 members of the Industrial Workers of the World, employed at the General Electric works, who ceased work yesterday because the company refused to reinstate several discharged employees, went back to the works this morning, but at 9 o'clock walked out in a body. They made no demonstration.

The company employs 15,000 men, the majority of whom are affiliated with the American Federation of Labor which is not concerned in the present trouble. There has been bad feeling between the Industrial Workers and the American Federation of Labor for some time, and it is reported that the Federation has volunteered to the company to fill the places of the strikers on short notice. There was a large crowd of men at the employment office of the company this morning looking for work. The men struck because three members of their organization had been discharged. The company then offered to re-employ the three men and put them in other departments. The strikers agreed to this but the union objected.

"BACKWOODS" PHYSICALLY, BUT NOT MENTALLY.
To the Daily and Weekly People:—Inclosed find money order for \$2 to cover a 3 months sub to Daily People, one year to Weekly People and 50 cents to the moving fund. I am a backwoodsman at present, but will do what I can for our press.

Theo. Ballantyne.

Canton, Ill., January 14.

HERR GOMPERS AND THE SOCIALIST PARTY.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I have read the article "The Circus" in the Daily People of January 14th and am somewhat surprised that you report knows so little about the friendship of the leaders of the American Federation of Labor and the same of the Socialist Party. Don't you know Mr. Gompers? He alone is able to save Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone? Go way back and sit down, you I. W. W. members; you have no friends in Congress and no seat in the National Civic Federation, and therefore amount to nothing.

The enclosed taken from the minutes of the Nat'l Executive Committee of the Brewery Workers of December 20, explains what steps the Socialist Party takes to suppress the I. W. W.

Yours for the Revolution,

A Brewery Worker.

New Haven, Conn., January 14.

[Enclosure]

The secretaries reported that a committee of the Executive Board of the Socialist Party, consisting of Comrades Mally and Towers, visited our headquarters with a request of calling a conference of all International officers residing in Cincinnati. The same was arranged for and held at our headquarters. The committee of the Socialist Party explained the object of the conference and the following resolution was adopted and signed by the respective officers:

Cincinnati, Ohio, Dec. 19, 1906.

In view of the recent decision of the United States Supreme Court, denying the writ of habeas corpus to Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone, a decision involving the liberty and rights of every citizen, and particularly members of organized labor and their representatives, and in view of the declaration on this subject made by President Gompers at the Minneapolis Convention of the American Federation of Labor, the undersigned officials of National Labor Unions have held an informal conference in Cincinnati on this date.

After consideration of the matter, it is our judgment that a national conference of labor organizations be called

under the auspices of the American Federation of Labor to provide means of protection, methods of defense, and channels of publicity on behalf of Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone, no other questions to be considered at the conference.

Signed—

Jos. F. Valentine, Pres. I. M. U. of N. A.

R. N. Metcalf, Fin. Sec. I. M. U. of N. A.

Joe. N. Weber, Pres. A. F. of M.

James Wilson, Gen'l Pres. P. M. L. of N. A.

Jere L. Sullivan, Hotel and Rest. Employees, Etc.

Hubert S. Marshall, I. U. of J. H.

Adam Huebner, Sec. Treas. I. U. U. B. W. of A.

Louis Kemper, Int'l Sec. I. U. U. B. W. of A.

Jos. Proebstle, Int'l Sec. I. U. U. B. W. of A.

The same resolution was also signed and adopted by the International officers residing in Chicago and Indianapolis, and was presented by Comrade Mally to President Gompers on the 20th inst.

Inasmuch as the case against Comrades Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone comes up for trial on the 21st of January the conference is to be held before this time.

Motion carried that our organization take an active part in the same.

A SUGGESTION.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Allow me space in the most valuable of papers, the Daily and Weekly People, for a suggestion which I would like to make, as I see the generous response to the Moving Fund, and which I would like to have a discussion on, among party members, through the columns of the Daily and Weekly People.

That suggestion is this, namely, "the best means to obtain a site and a building for the party's plant, which is to be also owned by the party," so that in the near future we shall not have to be at the mercy, as we now are, of capitalist privately owned property and be moving from place to place.

It was an advancement, of which no party of to-day can boast, when we got our press, but why stop there? Comrades, let us keep advancing until we have done our mission, i. e., established the co-operative commonwealth.

Hoping the comrades will give this the consideration it deserves, I remain, yours for the revolution,

Ernest Nyden.

Yonkers, N. Y., Jan. 13.

FAKE REASONING AND FALSE STATEMENTS EXPOSED.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—We find in "The Appeal to Reason" of October 6, 1906, this bit of information: "Socialism is industrial, not political; but it must gain the political power to inaugurate the industrial regime. When that is done the political feature of government will go the way of the stage coach when railroads came, not by any law denying the right to stage it, but because no one will want to use the stage."

If this means anything it means that the Socialists must first become victorious at the ballot box before there is any chance whatever for the wage-earning class to understand itself sufficiently to carry on industrial government. And that in spite of the economic obstacles, that the capitalists can use to hinder such a victory; for instance, keep the Socialist at work on election day, as was recently shown in the "Union Sentinel," by the State Secretary of the Wisconsin Socialist party. And then only would the Socialist Republic come into being just as fast as the political government would organize the industries democratically and no faster.

In the "Appeal" for December 1, 1906, we find: "You would hardly expect municipal or government ownership to be successful and satisfactory when such industries are placed by politics in the hands of men who are grafters, but who do not believe in the principle of public ownership, would you?"

Yet the "Appeal" supports a political party (the Socialist party) that upholds an economic organization that opposes the "democratic management" of industries. Is it not more reasonable to trust and support a political organization (the Socialist Labor Party) that is the object of the venom of an enemy—and begot the enemy as shown in the "Appeal" of the last date stated above, to wit: "One of the causes of disintegration was the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, promoted by the S. L. P. and organized in 1896"—because it declared itself in favor and persists in favoring an economic organization (the I. W. W.) that stands committed to collective ownership of the means of production—industrial democracy—in preference to an economic organization that allows the capitalists to use itself against its component parts? It is not at all certain that a political party (the S. P.) that supports a press that refuses to uphold an economic organization committed to, and without which "democratic" management—Socialism—cannot be inaugurated, will not be influenced

to go slow when once successful at the ballot box in organizing the industries democratically; is it? Shall the Socialist party persist in and become successful with its pure and simple political policy, defended by such a press, it would not be improbable for the officials of the political government to organize as slowly as possible the industries democratically, for graft.

Perhaps the "Appeal" doubts the wisdom of the pure and simple political policy, seeing as we do that it reprints in the last issue quoted from, under the caption: "The Threatening Cloud," an item from the New Castle (Pa.), "Herald," as follows: "A cloud no larger than a man's hand is visible in the political sky. Will it overspread it and drench the world with trouble? This cloud is Socialism. Herbert Spencer predicted that Socialism will ultimately triumph; that its establishment will be the greatest disaster the world has ever known; and sooner or later it will be brought to an end by a military despotism!"

Nor is this all. The "Appeal" is not particular how it opposes that party (the S. L. P.), as we see by the quotation taken from the issue last quoted from, as follows: "The party officers had succeeded in securing to the membership of New York City the exclusive power of electing and recalling the national officers, etc."—Whereas the facts are—"the Section or Sections of the place selected as the seat" of same had to submit such action to a general vote of the party," as shown in constitution adopted at national convention in 1896—See Art. 4, Sec. 1, of same, and also proceedings of said convention—and which the writer never saw the "Appeal" oppose while he was a reader of it in 1897 and 1898.

Silas Hinkel.

Reading, Pa., Jan. 4.

AN AMENDMENT.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I would like to call the attention of the members of the Socialist Labor Party to the following amendment to the constitution, proposed by Section Kansas City. "All members of the Socialist Labor Party, if eligible, shall be members of the Industrial Workers of the World."

The reason and object of this resolution are, that there are many persons who will loudly advocate the I. W. W. but neglect to prove their words by their actions, or who secretly or openly are against the I. W. W. Such persons will try to get into the S. L. P. but such a rule if enforced, will act as an obstacle. It is hoped that enough other sections will endorse this resolution to submit it to a referendum.

Fraternally, yours for the Revolution,
Forbes Garney, 1333 Walnut St.
Kansas City, Mo., January 5, 1907.

SIGNS OF "PROSPERITY."

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Some people who are "trying to array class against class" have the audacity to say that many poor people are in want, that many are out of employment, in dire distress.

The Providence "Tribune" of this date has an article that will tend to prove that these "anarchists" are right. It states that the Workman's Loan Association had to lower its rate to one per cent. per month in order to meet competition.

Now, if every one was prosperous why should they wish to borrow money?

It might interest the reader to know that the officers and directors of the loan company, are mill owners, who pay wages so small that whole families must work to earn enough to exist—barely—then turn around and pay 12 per cent for money to buy clothes to cover their nakedness. These philanthropic (?) parasites would be delighted to get 5 per cent from a rich man for their ill-gotten funds.

Rathbone Gardner mentioned as Sec'y, is the Democratic Leader and candidate for Senator.

"What fools these mortals be."
Yours Fraternally,
E. A. C.

Providence, R. I., January 10.

THE MOVING FUND.

(Continued from page 4.)

ens, 25c; J. Holyrod, 25c;
G. Kratz, 25c; M. Hostetter,
50c; J. Reid, 50c; Louis
Eberly, 50c; C. Gross, Jr.,
25c; J. Smith, 10c; T.
Chalmers, Jr., 50c; T. Chal-
mers, Sr., 25c; H. Wesley,
25c; F. C. Binder, 50c. 4.35

Total \$ 254.90

Previously acknowledged... 917.00

Grand Total \$1,171.90

A. C. Kihn, Sec'y-Treas.,

Press Security League.

P. S.—Some three weeks ago \$2.00 were credited to George Elze, of Albany, N. Y. They should have been credited to Section Albany, N. Y., instead.

Watch the label on your paper. It will tell you when your subscription expires. First number indicates the month, second, the day, third the year.

LETTER-BOX

OFF-HAND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NO QUESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED THAT COME IN ANONYMOUS LETTERS. ALL LETTERS MUST CARRY A BONA FIDE SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS.

M. H. S., CHAMPAIGN, ILL.—Now

to your fourth and fifth questions—

Fourth—The banquet of the Automobile manufacturers, at which Shaw spoke, took place on December 14, 1906. The papers of the next day—"New York American," among them—reported the speech in its original form.

Fifth—You do not read The People carefully. The Weekly of the 12th instant—the identical issue containing the article from which you quote—has an editorial "Roosevelt as Scape-goat" giving the date of the "Sun" containing the passage you inquire after.

Next hundred questions in the course of time.

T. W., TORONTO, CANADA—Thou doest injustice to the correspondents who favor the dropping of political agitation altogether. They certainly are in error. The reason, however, of their attitude is not that of petty minds, who, "envious of people of fuller knowledge and ability" try "to knock the S. L. P." There may be such among them, but such minds are not only in the Socialist party's officialdom. With the exception of Wilshire, who is essentially a toyer with serious things out of cynicism, the Editors of the S. P. press are the ones tainted with the vice that you impute to the "Anarchists." These correspondents are in search of the Truth.

H. J. S., OURAY, COLO.—The poem was too long for publication in Weekly. Ditto ditto as to article you ask reproduced from Daily. Weekly People space is just now at high premium.

J. A. S., BROOKLYN, N. Y.—You will see in the course of the week an article that appeared in the Jewish "Arbeiter" on the difference between the Socialist Labor Party and the Socialist party. It will answer your purpose.

H. G., SCHENECTADY, N. Y.—Notice received too late for early publication.

L. J. CHILLICOTTE, O.—The case is one, illustrative of the falsity of the capitalist's pretenses concerning equality before the law. The routine claims of the workman against the capitalist are so small (however urgent to himself) that it would cost him more to collect than to drop the matter. Thus he is victimized all around.

E. E. S., NEW YORK—Those statistical tables of Sanibel have to be read with caution. They are full of inaccuracies, and their language is loose. Then they are also defective. The figures for the cost of living (retail prices) are incomplete. They overlook the items of rent, and of deterioration of goods. The result leads to false conclusions. See Weekly People of last May 5. The matter was there treated quite fully. (Daily, December 8, 1905.)

J. S., NEW YORK—It would take six columns to answer the six questions. They may be compressed into one, to which the answer is:—There is great hurry on the part of the Volkzeitung Corporation to "start" the "Daily Call." The reason is, first, "The Worker" is a teetotal failure; the Corporation is anxious to unload; if the "Daily Call" is started, there would be a good pretext to drop "The Worker." Secondly, if the "Daily Call" is started the Corporation may have better chances to stick its hands in the funds collected for the said "English" daily, than now it enjoys; the Corporation expects to do some or all of the job. As to what the chances of a paper, begotten by such causes, are you may judge for yourself.

W. G. D., WINONA, MINN.—Why, man, there is room enough in the Movement for scores of men, even of identical capabilities and lines of capabilities, let alone of different capabilities. None but the pettiest of minds are eaten up with the malice that envy suggests. For the rest see above, to T. W., Toronto.

H. J. F., CHICAGO, ILL.—There is not now any Socialist publication in Ireland. M. S., SCHENECTADY—The Western Federation of Miners was organized in 1893. The American Labor Union was organized ten years later, 1903. The two were not organically united although they had some affiliation through their officers. For instance, at the first I. W. W. convention, Haywood appeared as a delegate of both organizations. The W. F. of M. originally endorsed the S. L. P.; subsequently it endorsed the S. P.; later still it dropped the S. P. The rupture in the W. F. M. is mainly the fault of S. P. intrigue, and that went hand and hand with Mitchell manoeuvres.

The intrigue has failed substantially, and will fail absolutely. Wait and watch.

M. R., TRENTON, N. J.—You misquote history and misapply it. As to Nathan Hale, like the rest of the American revolutionists, he had first voted the Revolution in-o power. As to the Russian comrades, their course is unavoidable. Where revolutionary propaganda is barred from the political platform, nothing else is left but the resort to physical force.

"A CRITIC," TOLEDO, O.—We have droll critics. When the "Toledo Socialist" died and we said so, a critic found fault with us, claiming that the paper had not died because it had reappeared in Caldwell, Ida. Probably, now that the Caldwell paper died, and it is to be issued in Seattle, fault will be found with us for saying "Idaho Socialist" died, claiming it did not die because Titus is going to start another venture in Seattle. At this rate and by that reasoning, were Titus to start his wild-cat venture in a hundred successive towns there would be 100 more "Socialist" papers. The theory would be that what does not exist does exist: Your critique is of that nature.

F. W., SALT LAKE, UTAH—As to whether the present officers of the W. F. of M. have an iron clad contract with Mitchell that they will not trespass upon his preserve, and he will not trespass upon theirs,—as to that we can say nothing positive. The Mahoneys "Acting for poor Moyer, who is languishing in an Idaho jail"; the Kirwans, who give receipts for \$8,000 when they actually received \$9,000 for the Defense Fund; and the O'Neill chums of the ex-Presidents Stars do not, as a rule take us into their confidence. This much we are free to say. It is now as it was in the days when Tacitus observed that "the few can not sell what belongs to the many." Such a contract, if it does exist, will not deter the I. W. W. from organizing the "proletaire rabble" of the coal mines wherever located—and bounce both Mitchell and "the parties of the second part."

J. A. S., GLOBE, ARIZ.—Those interested in "the best interests of the S. L. P." should show their interest by exercising that common sense that will restrain a man from demanding from the limited force on The People the full courtesies that may be expected from the full force on a capitalist daily; and they should make to critics the apologies that common sense should suggest, thus giving aid to, instead of finding fault with this office. This office has not the necessary force to write letters to correspondents explaining why their matter is rejected.

H. B. H., NEW YORK—Letter will be duly published with answer to questions. Must first get through with the letters "as to politics" now on hand.

A. M. G., NEW YORK—Just as above.

F. S., NEW YORK—The same underground wires, that connect Gooding and MacDonald with Orchard, connect MacDonald and Gooding with the Gomperses and Mitchells. McCaffery, of Kansas City, who recently left the S. P., and gave his opinion on the O'Neills, Mahoneys, etc., hit the nail on the head when he said that, when the conspiracy against Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone is finally revealed, Orchard will be found not to be the blackest villain in the plot.

E. C., EAST PROVIDENCE, R. I.; I. E. F., CHILLICOTTE, O.; D. V. B., VICTORIA, B. C.; E. S., CLEVELAND, O.; E. R. B., HAMILTON, CANADA; H. A., NEW YORK; R. V., SPRINGFIELD, ILL.; L. M., MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.; F. J. B., BOSTON, MASS.; C. L. E., SIDNEY, AUSTRALIA; D. L. B., BARRE, VT.; R. T., NEW ORLEANS, LA.; E. B. F., FARIABAULT, MINN.; E. W., MYSTIC, I.A.; S. A., OMAHA, NEB.; L. M. G., HAMILTON, CANADA; A. C. A., PHILADELPHIA, PA.; T. M., WILMINGTON, DEL.; S. B., DENVER, COLO.; E. W., BOISE, IDA.; F. M. H., DETROIT, MICH.; M. G., LOUISVILLE, KY.; A. E. B., NEW YORK; M. L., CHICAGO, ILL.; B. T., WASHINGTON, D. C.; N. V. K., DEURNE, BELGIUM; E. C. H., VINEYARD HAVEN, MASS.; J. W., PHILADELPHIA, PA.; J. P., GOLD-FIELD, NEV.; D. E. G., PITTSBURG, PA.; K. T. T., NEW YORK; F. W., PITTSBURG, PA.; H. H. M., CINCINNATI, O.—Matter received.

The People is a good broom to brush the cobwebs from the minds of the workers. Buy a copy and pass it around.

OFFICIAL

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Frank Bohn, National Secretary, 2-6
New Road street, New York.
S. L. P. OF CANADA.
National Secretary, Thos. Maxwell, 798
Dundas street, London Ont.
NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO.
2-6 New Road street, New York City
(The Party's literary agency.)
Notice—For technical reasons no party
announcements can go in that are not
in this office by Tuesday, 10 p. m.

CANADIAN N. E. C.

Regular meeting of Canadian N. E. C.
London, December 30th, 1906. Waiter
in chair. Minutes adopted as read.
Communications: From R. E. Burns
of Hamilton giving information re mun-
icipal elections; also sending in 4 ap-
plications as members at large with \$1.00
enclosed for dues. The Secretary re-
ported that he had sent constitutions and
membership cards to applicants which
action was endorsed. From F. Bohn,
national secretary, U. S. S. L. P., send-
ing communication of one Emil Kenolt
of Riverview, Sask. Canada. Secretary
instructed to attend to same by granting
application as a member at large.

From J. M. Reid, Toronto, saying
late charter had been lost and dealing
with other matters. The Secretary re-
ported answering same, which was en-
dorsed. From R. E. Burns, sending in
application cards for 3, which were filled
out properly, the other one being out of
town; also asked whether old Section
Hamilton owed anything to the N. Y.
Labor News Co. and other matters. The
Secretary was instructed to reply that it
was charter stamps and official books of
Section that N. E. C. wants.

On inquiry of Secretary the business
relating to Section Montreal was laid
over.

W. D. Forbes, Rec. Sec'y.

GENERAL VOTE

On Candidates for Members of the
New York State Executive Commit-
tee.

To the Sections of the S. L. P. in New
York State—You are herewith called

THE MOVEMENT ABROAD

THE RELATION BETWEEN THE ECONOMIC AND THE POLITICAL
MOVEMENTS OF LABOR IN BELGIUM—A JAPANESE SOCIALIST
DAILY EXPECTED THIS MONTH.

BELGIUM.

The most important question to come
before the convention of the Belgian
Trade Unions, the first week in January,
was that of their attitude towards the
political movement. In a thrilling speech
on the subject, delegate Delaruelle said:

"It is said that affiliation with the
Trade Union Committee, as it is a Social-
ist body, will hamper the economic move-
ment. Nonsense! The working class is
not afraid of Socialism or of the Red
Flag. Else it would be afraid of itself.
For Socialism is but the quintessence of
the thought of the proletariat. Since
the last debate on the matter of affilia-
tion, you have seen the trade unions
come over to the working class Party.
The paper workers, the iron workers and
the cigarmakers of Turnhout, the labor-
ers of Willebroek, the Longshoremen of
Antwerp, have grown by hundreds since
their affiliation. We have convinced the
carriage makers' union, and we can as-
sure you that the six unions still re-
maining unattached will in short time be
in direct connection with the Labor
Party."

No definite action was taken by the
convention, but the delegates pledged
themselves to do all in their power to
secure affiliation.

JAPAN.

Giso Yamaguchi, of the staff of The
Hikari (The Light), the central organ
of the Party in Japan, has just been
acquitted of a charge of violating the
Press Laws. On the 24th of September,
The Hikari published as a special edi-
tion a leaflet entitled "War Between the
Rich and the Poor," in which such ad-
ministrative organs as the police, the
army, and the government were charac-
terized as the tools of the rich. This
was considered "quite dangerous to the
social order," and suit brought against
Yamaguchi. When the verdict of ac-
quittal was rendered, the Public Prose-
cutor at once appealed.

The issuance of a Socialist daily in
Tokyo has been decided on, and the first
number is expected to appear before the
end of January.

GERMANY.

The number of strikes in Germany in-
creased steadily during the three quar-
ters of 1906, amounting to 247 in the first,
335 in the second, and 778 in the third
quarter.

upon to take a general vote on the fol-
lowing candidates for members of the
New York State Executive Committee,
nominated by the Sections in Greater
New York: Henry Kuhn, Matthew
Lechner, Justus Ebert, Fred Olpp, Tim-
othy Walsh, Paul Augustine, Max Neu-
haus, Harry Teichlauf, Adam Moren,
Emil Mueller, E. A. Archer, J. Hurwitz,
H. R. Englert, Edmund Moonelis.

The seven candidates receiving the
highest number of votes will act as the
committee. The remaining seven candi-
dates will fill vacancies in rotation ac-
cording to the vote polled by them. The
general vote will close on March 1. Vot-
ing blanks will be issued. Sections are
urged to have all returns in before that
date.

Justus Ebert, Secretary,
N. Y. S. E. C.

TROY, N. Y., ATTENTION!

Members of Section Rennsler County
take notice. There will be a meeting
of the Section next Sunday afternoon,
January 27, at 3 o'clock, in comrade Hy-
man's barber shop on Congress street.
Business of great importance to come
before the meeting. All members should
be present.

Organizer.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Regarding a New Edition of Bebel's
"Woman Under Socialism."

The first issue of Bebel's "Woman
Under Socialism," translated by Daniel
De Leon is completely exhausted, and
work has been started upon a new edi-
tion. In order to help us push the new
edition to rapid completion we should
like to get as many advance orders as
possible, accompanied with the cash. If
you have not a copy of the book send
on one dollar NOW for a copy of the
new edition. If you have a copy canvas
your friends and see if you cannot get
an order or two and send on with the
money. Socialist Labor party sections
are urged to send on at once whatever
cash in advance orders they can make
up.

Work has been started on the new edi-
tion; give us all the financial help that
you can now to push the work through.

New York Labor News Co., 2-6 New
Road street, New York.

A VICTORY FOR INDUSTRIALISM

THE TIDAL WAVE OF ORGANIZATION ON THE SWEDISH RAILROADS

[From the Julfaeklan by V. R.—Trans-
lated by Olive M. Johnson.]

The most remarkable organization
work during the year is the awakening
among the railroad employees. Their or-
ganization about trebled during the first
9 months of the year. The Swedish Rail-
road Employees Union had scarcely 8,000
members at the beginning of the year.
In October, when this is written, it
claims 23,000 members and events point
to a membership of over 25,000 at the
close of the year. Employees of state and
private roads are included in this or-
ganization.

The above figures are exceptional and
show that a positive tidal wave in favor
of united organization has burst out
over the ranks of the R. R. workers that
has carried with it many previously slug-
gish, untutored, and, in some instances,
even hostile elements. Such a movement
does not come of itself. It arises out of
many and deep lying causes. It is im-
possible even to hint at all these in a short
article. As the most important, however,
must be mentioned, the growing discon-
tent over existing conditions of employ-
ment and the common feeling that pre-
viously applied remedies are ineffective.

The causes of discontent among the
R. R. workers are on the whole, the
same as those which effect the whole
working class, namely low wages, long
hours, great risk and, as a whole, a low
standard of living. To this must be added
that the R. R. are organized after a
military pattern and that a sharpe caste
system is enforced.

The wages of the poorer paid has been
unimaginably low. The private roads as
a rule have paid less than the state road.
When, at the beginning of the year the
battle for better pay on the Malmo-
Ystad road commenced, with some ar-
ticles in the local press, it caused actual
sensation, when the public learned about
the wage scale adopted as late as 1904.
It was startled to learn that many R. R.
workers received the measly yearly wage
of 660 kr. out of which the receiver even
had to purchase his own uniform. Only
after 20 years steady service did a train-
man in Malmo receive a wage of 90 kr.
per month. Nevertheless the Malmo-
Ystad road belonged to the class that
paid the best. The condition on the less
profitable roads were still worse.

The working hours on the R. R. are
long beyond reason. In the regulation
laws it commonly states that the em-
ployees are duty-bound to serve when and
wherever they are demanded. Anything
called overtime the R. R. management
has never allowed to be mentioned. The
regular working time has as a rule
never been less than 12 hours and, in the
summer time, often as high as 14 to 16.
As an illustration of what a R. R. em-
ployee may have to put up with, may be
mentioned the work of the watchmen on
a southern road. During the summer
they were ordered to partake in section
work. Their working day then
looks thus: First inspecting the line
about 1/4 a mile (one Swedish mile is
about 7 English miles long-Trans.). Then
a ride on his handcart to the working
place, which often is 10 to 20 km away,
there he must work from 6 a. m. till 6
p. m., then he pulled home on his car,
and again had to inspect the line, and at
last each in his place had to flag the
night trains which passed, some as late
as 11 p. m. The hours, with only a
break for meals, lasted from 4 a. m. to 11
p. m.

Under such working hours a man
must eventually break down. The R. R.
system even when the hours are nor-
mal craves many victims. The long hours
increase the accidents enormously. That
watchmen are so frequently run over and
killed is caused exactly by the conspicu-
ous over working of these men, whose
condition is about the worst on the
roads. By the criminal arrangements of
some of the yards there are also actual
death traps laid for the switchmen. The
workers risk on the R. R.'s is immense.

The low pay, the long hours and the
continual risk of life and limb have caused
great oppression and a rising discontent.
The standard of living of the less paid
workers is, on some roads, scarcely above
that of the farmhands. Yet the R. R.'s
are getting their recruits from elements
that have created wants of a higher na-
ture.

Lastly must not be forgotten the dis-
content created by the existing caste sys-
tem. The R. R. workers are divided
into two main groups—salaried officers,
and mere wage slaves—the castes of the
yellow and the white buttons. Between
these two there exists an impassable
chasm. An officer and a workman must
not ride in the same class car on the
train. The gray-headed veteran with
white cords on his coat must stand humbly
in military position and salute any
student or schoolboy who has just com-
menced his career on the roads, exactly
as in military service. And among the

wage slaves themselves exist also very
strong castes—between the corded and
the uncorded suits, between a conductor
and a baggage man, between the super-
intendent of the roadbed and a watch-
man, etc.

A number of the local officers mis-
take pitifully their officership and pry
into the private business of those under
them. Backbiting, two-facedness, sub-
missiveness, spying and, in general, a
poor comradeship are evils which have
flourished on many roads and at the sta-
tions. Even among the poorest paid there
have existed elements that have stopped
at nothing in order to swing themselves
a few steps up the ladder on the shoulders
of their fellow workers. Above all
has every pains been taken to keep or-
ganization with a socialistic coloring
away from the R. R. workers.

However, it has happened among the
R. R. workers, as among all other op-
pressed people: when the pressure from
above became too strong a reaction set
in from below. The organization spirit
has been born and has grown strong and
healthy.

At first the organization of the R. R.
workers was a slow process. The ob-
stacles were numerous. Hard work and
low pay create sluggishness and lack of
spirit. And then there was the caste
difference! It was of course not to be
expected that the different grades of
wage slaves should become comrades of
the same organization and much less
could the yellow and the white buttons
meet under the same roof. Consequent-
ly were the first organizations naturally
enough CRAFT ORGANIZATIONS—one
for baggage men, one for watchmen,
one for conductors, etc., etc., the whole
scale up. Different organizations also
existed for the state and private roads.
This system of craft organization might
in its time have had its mission. For
example, it was easier to get an engineer
to belong to an engineers' union than to
a union where perhaps freight handlers
and watchmen were in the majority. A
caste system creates suspicion. But if
a person once for all belongs to an or-
ganization he will soon foster the true
organization—solidarity. And this soon
shatters all old superstitions. The craft
organizations moreover did not scare
away these crude, and with socialism
totally unacquainted, elements. They
also often held together for self-protec-
tion by adopting sick and death benefit
features.

But on the other hand it was self-evi-
dent that the craft organizations were
powerless in a real battle for wages.
Each organization had its petty interests
to guard and thus might one, in an-
other's efforts, think its own interests
lowered. Unity of action, a principle
absolutely vital for victory, was an im-
possibility among these petty and jealous
unions. We have it from a reliable
source that one of these petty unions—
wage slaves of a somewhat high grade—
carried on an agitation in the Ristag of
1905 against Oscar Berg's motion to
raise the pay of all the lower paid work-
ers \$120 kr. per year. The reason for
this action was that if this raise was
granted the best paid in the lower grades
of workers would receive as much wages
as some in the higher grades and that
these could never tolerate.

The utter helplessness of the craft or-
ganizations appeared, however, the most
glaringly in the petition which they
handed the government last year. In
order not to mar the semblance of unity
they had not been able to state neither
what raise they desired nor which wage
classes ought to receive it. They only
asked in a general way for something
better. The consequences came home to
the employees by the management's mo-
tion. It offered a little raise for Stock-
holm and surroundings for one of the
higher wage classes. So little probably
no one had expected, yet the manage-
ment had granted the petition!

As fighting organizations the craft or-
ganizations were simply useless. The
realization of this made rapid decreases
in the ranks of the once flourishing
unions.

It was then that the necessity for and
the power of the Industrial form of or-
ganization commenced to be understood.
The United Swedish R. R. Workers Or-
ganization had in the first place the shop
employees and the sectionmen to thank
for its inauguration. During the year it
had gained a respectable wage increase
for its members on the Stockholm-Rum-
bo road; and on the Upsala-Gavle road
it had come out victorious for the right
to organize. When therefore the old
organizations were proven helpless, the
new one grew apace.

The great stream from the craft or-
ganizations to the industrial was not
only caused by the former's helplessness
but also by the difference in tactics. The
modus operandi of the craft unions was

petitioning and begging. The United R.
R. Workers on the other hand stand on
the principle that the seller of labor
power must oppose his power to that
of the buyer. Thus the workers' will
also plays a part in a wage agreement.
With a thorough organization they mean
to carry through their demands by ceas-
ing to work. It is consequently modern
organization that not only counts on the
master's "good will," but moreover on
the power which lies in united or-
ganization.

The knowledge of this was perceived
the quickest in the less paid ranks.
Among the state employees the petition
methods received its death blow with the
Riksdag's decision on the wage-question
this year. Although in the proposition
regarding the state employees the govern-
ment had asked a grant only of the R. R.
workers' measly petition, even this mod-
est request was denied and much less
could there be any question of granting
Oscar Berg's or the Social Democrats'
more favorable motions.

About the same time did the begging
system receive its death blow on the
private roads. It was on the Malmo-
Ystad road, the road owned by the lords
of Skone (the most southern province of
Sweden—Trans.), where the signal was
given for new war methods. On this
road they had, at different times the
various groups, and again, the whole of
the employees, petitioned for better wages.
In 1904 the management revised the
scale so that some groups received the
modest raise of from 1.25 to 1.37 kr
per month. But at the last the omni-
potent president simply let the petitions
land in the waste basket. This was the
drop that made the ember of discontent
flare up. In a few months, one local of
U. R. R. workers embraced all the actual
wage workers on this road, with only a
couple of exceptions. Shortly thereupon
broke out Sweden's first, and up to this
time, only railroad strike.

(Here follows a detailed description
of this strike, which, however, may not
be of sufficient interest to the workers
of this country to warrant the use of
the space it would take. Suffice it to say
that the government, finally stepped in
and arbitrated the question. Hence they
did not gain all they asked and, as is al-
ways the case, when wage questions are
arbitrated, some loopholes were left for
the capitalists. The workers recognized
this, yet they choose arbitration rather
than expose their young organization to
too great risks. On an average the wage
increase was 300 kr. per man, a year.
This arbitration decision has since been
the basis of new wage scales on many
roads, so that through the moral victory
of this one strike, general improvement
has been effected without strike and the
R. R. workers have a chance to perfect
their organization—Trans.)

In conclusion we must not neglect to
mention the solidarity which this year's
happenings have produced between the
R. R. workers and the rest of the prole-
tariat. It would be wrong to hide the
fact that the U. R. R. workers' organiza-
tion is permeated with Socialism. Many
R. R. men belong to our Communes.
Many more would do so if most locals
did not extend over a long stretch of
road and cannot therefore for practical
reasons, as a whole, belong to one com-
mune.

In the conflicts, real or threatened,
of the R. R. workers this year, the indus-
trial proletarians have stood solidly on
the side of their fighting comrades and
there has been more than empty phrases
behind these declarations of solidarity.

Another paramount question now is
that of the U. R. R. workers becoming
part of the "Lands Organizationen." (The
United political and economic Socialist
labor organization of the country.—Trans.)

The Post Office workers at their last
convention decided to consider the ques-
tion of a State Employee's Federation as
a sort of a bridge to the "Lands Organi-
zation." This might possibly be a use-
ful method. But the evolution points di-
rectly to the great "Lands Organization."

The year 1906 will unquestionably
stand forth as a remarkable year for
more than one reason. By the great
general increase in organized workers
through the organization of the R. R.
workers the possibilities have increased
for an early victorious battle for a bet-
ter economic and political system.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

(Continued from page 1.)

istic rule for he that works and votes
for the Socialist Party supports the A.
F. of L. while he that wants the co-
operative commonwealth, works for the
I. W. W., and votes with the S. L. P.

Some say "the Revolution will come;
don't worry. Leave it to Kingley and
the Tory Party." At their meeting to-
night at the City Hall, a great howl
went up because Williams and Haw-
thornthwaite, two men lately represent-
ing the aforesaid Socialist Party were
boycotted by King Dupesmir of Van-
couver Island who owns the mines there
and won't let them work. We don't think
they want to very bad. If you want to

know sure ask the conservative party of
B. C., or their solid five that will be
elected on the conservative ticket at this
election. The rest of the votes will be
divided between the Grit Party and the
Socialist Party so the Grit or Liberal
are left.

While writing this Kingley drops out
of the nomination as candidate, because
he is not on the voters list and is not
eligible to govern this province of B. C.,
although he has been in this country
some years. Many will remember why
he left Uncle Sam's territory. He is the
editor, in fact, the whole push of his
press and party, a purely political press
and party; yet he has no vote, but says
the ballot is the whole thing.

Ye gods of Heathen mythology, the
rank and file can't see the ghost.
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tion.

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History of a Proletarian
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Across the Ages

By Eugene Sue.

Translated by Daniel De Leon.

In order to understand our own time it is absolutely necessary that we
know something of the times that have gone before. The generations are
like links in a chain, all connected. The study, by which we can learn what
has been done and thought before us, is history, and this is perhaps the most
fascinating of all studies. Many historians fill their books with nothing
but battles and the doings of "great" men, but happily this style of writing
history is becoming obsolete, and the history of the people is taking its
place. Socialism is more concerned with the history of the people than
with the doings of kings and queens; and with a knowledge of the history
of the people we can better understand how the great men achieved promi-
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